The Literary Digest

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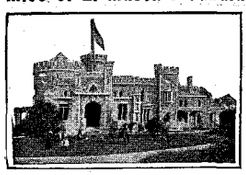

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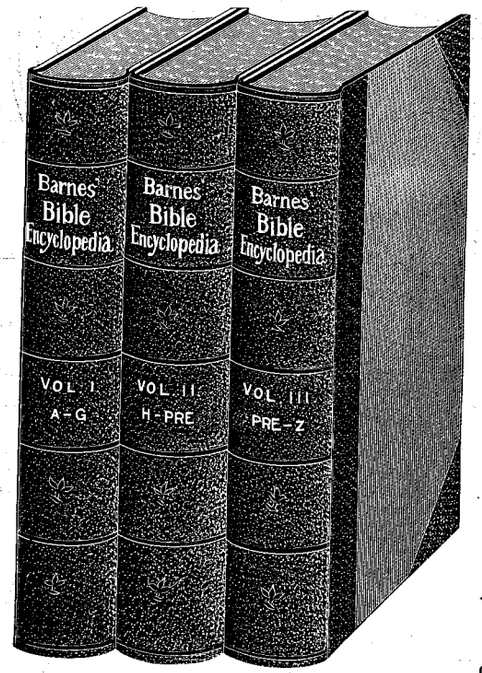

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE SERVIAN REVOLUTION.

THE midnight massacre of the King and Queen of Servia, and of the Servian Premier, the Minister of War, and the Queen's two brothers, has created a world-wide sensation. This bloody tragedy hardly finds a parallel, as the New York *Evening Post* remarks, in any civilized country, unless it be in the later years of the Roman empire or in Russia in the century following Peter the Great. The murders were committed by members of the Servian army, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Mischics, who forced their way into the palace at Belgrade on June 11. Immediately after the death of the royal couple, a new Cabinet was constituted, and Prince Peter Karageorgevitch was proclaimed King of Servia. The details of the massacre are furnished in press despatches as follows:

Army officers to the number of ninety having formed a project of a revolt, among them being delegates from almost every garrison in Servia and the majority of the officers of the Sixth Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Mischics invited his comrades to meet on Wednesday evening at 11 o'clock in the Helimagdan Garden, and there the immediate carrying out of the intended deed was organized.

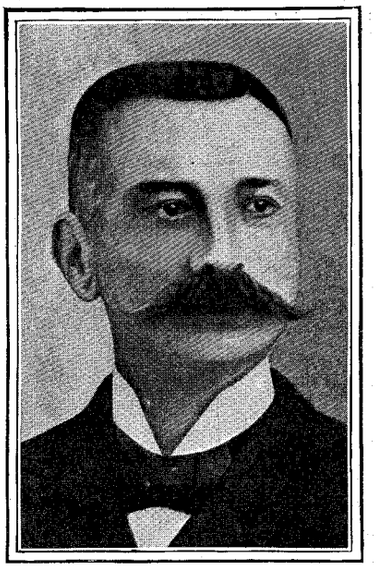
At 1:40 A.M., the officers, in eight groups, went to the Konak, the royal palace. Each had a cue and special directions regarding his part in the revolution. In the palace itself the revolutionaries had two important partizans in the King's body-guard—Col. Alexander Maschin (Queen Draga's cousin) and the King's personal adjutant, Lieutenant Naumovics.

The revolutionaries forced their way into the palace, shooting all who attempted to bar their passage. Suddenly the electric lights went out. All stood in darkness. In the greatest excitement and feeling their way, the revolutionaries climbed the stairs and got into the dark anteroom to the King's apartment. Here they found candles, and lit them. This seemingly slight circumstance was decisive to the whole action. Without light they could not have found the victims, who fled in their nightclothes from their sleeping apartment through corridors and numerous rooms. After a long search a small door leading into an alcove was discovered, but was found locked. It was broken in with an ax, and here the royal couple were found. The older officers first intended to force the King to abdicate, but the young officers were in no mood to be held back, and shot at the King and Queen. Nobody knows in the excitement who shot first, but it is generally said it was Lieutenant Kistics. The King received thirty shot wounds, many of them deadly. Queen Draga had numerous shot and sabre wounds. The doors and floors of the royal apartments were shattered and the ruins drenched with blood.

All the servants of the royal couple fled when the first shots were heard, with the exception of Queen Draga's servant. At twelve minutes past two o'clock all was over. Colonel Maschin appeared from the gate of the Konak, around which great crowds had collected, and made a speech saying:

"We have now destroyed the dynasty of the Obrenovitches and have got rid of the dishonorable woman who was the King's evil spirit. Long live Servia!"

The people responded: "Long live the army!"



PRINCE PETER KARAGEORGEVITCH,
The newly proclaimed King of Servia.

The history of the two contending Servian dynasties, between whom power has alternated for a hundred years, is outlined by the Springfield *Republican* as follows:

"It has been Servia's unhappy fate to suffer from the misrule of her kings and princes since the yoke of the Turk was finally cast off. From one cause or another, indeed, the country has been unfortunate in its political arrangements since it lost its independence to the Ottoman empire in the fourteenth century. There was a long night of eclipse and servitude, lasting until early in the last century, when a Servian peasant, Kara George, organized the people in rebellion, and, aided by Russia, won the independence of the country. That remarkable man was the ancestor of the present prince, who, after years in the rôle of a pretender, is now proclaimed king by the revolutionists. Kara George, however, having reigned until 1813, was himself assassinated by a swineherd, Obrenovitch, who founded the royal family of which the late King Alexander was the last survivor. It is a singular fact that the two houses, both sprung from the peasantry within a century, should alternately rise and fall, and fall and rise, by the process of assassination.

"The founder of the house of Obrenovitch, however, made good his claim to the leadership of the Servian people by fifteen years of desperate resistance to the Turks, who began to overrun the country again in 1814–15. Finally he secured Russian support and, in 1830, compelled the Porte to acknowledge him as the

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hereditary prince of Servia. From that time the country has kept intact, altho the rash attack on Turkey in 1876 would have ended in the complete absorption of the principality by the Turkish Government had not Russia again intervened. Another foolish attack on Bulgaria in 1885, after the principality had become a kingdom, would have brought Servia to destruction had not Austria-Hungary intervened. To these two great Powers Servia undoubtedly owes its very existence. The country's government became a constitutional monarchy in 1869."

The same paper goes on to discuss the causes of the present revolution:

"Ever since King Milan, the father of the late King, ascended the throne, there has been bad government in Servia, and the personal responsibilities of these two rulers can not be evaded. Both were morally weak, Milan's passion for gambling and his troubles with his estimable Queen, Natalie, scandalizing Europe for years. The wilful young Alexander, who reached the throne when in his teens, committed an indiscretion, which ruined his reign, in marrying a former lady-in-waiting to his mother, now known as Queen Draga. This woman has weighted heavily the Obrenovitch house in the esteem of the Servian people by seeking to have her brother made heir-apparent, has antagonized the army by her schemes to place her relatives in command of it, and not long ago made the dynasty ridiculous before the world by the premature announcement of an heir to the throne who never materialized in the flesh. Alexander and Draga assiduously courted the favor of the Czar and intrigued for an invitation to the Russian court, but this never came."

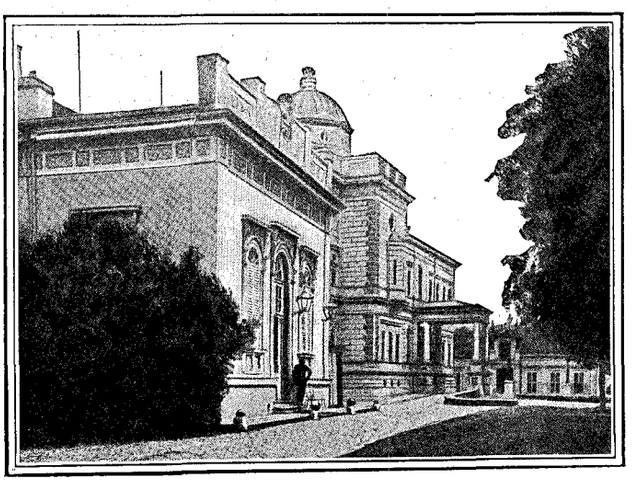
QUEEN DRAGA,

KING ALEXANDER,

Whose deaths at the hands of revolutionists have terminated the Obrenovitch dynasty.

The situation is summed up by the New York *Times* in much the same spirit. "That the sordid farce which the Government of Servia under its late ruler had become," observes *The Times*, "should be concluded by a horrible tragedy was not unnatural, nor was it unexpected by those who were in the best position for forecasting the future." It continues:

"The unspeakable Milan was luckier than he deserved in being allowed to get out alive. His equally unspeakable successor has met a fate more consonant with poetical justice. A kingdom is in a bad way which, with about two-thirds of the population of Greater New York, keeps on foot and theoretically under pay an army of something over a hundred thousand in time of peace, an army more numerous than the pupils of the public schools, altho education as well as military service is compulsory. From a human and domestic point of view, the uxoriousness which characterized Alexander was almost a redeeming trait. But politically it was the worst of his faults, and precipitated his ruin. Solemnly to proclaim a 'constitution' in obedience to popular clamor which you find irresistible, and, within two years, to proclaim the suspension of it for a few hours, while you rearrange the Government to suit yourself, afterward proclaiming again that it is in full force and effect—this is a series of procedures which would excite the scorn and wrath of the most patient tribe of slaves on the face of the earth. These proceedings were taken, it appears, at the instigation of the Queen, who has expiated her folly with her life. She had made herself odious to the Servian people by a course of nepotism as tactless as it was shameless, resulting in gross favoritism in every branch of the public service, and culminating in the attempt to have her brother declared heir to the throne. . . . That the low-born Queen should have undertaken to exert an influence which would have been shameful on the part of a queen born in the purple was more than the Servians could stand. They seem to have taken their revenge not only by murdering the offending woman, but by extirpating her whole race, and thus making sure that none of her plots for the benefit of her kindred could be successful."



THE ROYAL PALACE AT BELGRADE.

Prince Karageorgevitch, the newly proclaimed King of Servia, has been living in exile for twelve years in Geneva. He is reported to have been "greatly astonished" upon receiving the news from Belgrade, and denies any implication, direct or indirect, in the assassination. According to the New York *Tribune*, however, this "wily intriguer" has for many years been working to get the Servian throne. The same paper continues:

"To further his interests, he has made himself a protégé and practical vassal of the Russian Czar, and he is a son-in-law of the Prince of Montenegro, a close friend of Russia. Russian influence has therefore been largely exerted in Prince Peter's favor. Prince Peter, whom we may now speak of as the new King of Servia, is probably no more estimable in morals than the Obrenovitches have been. But he is a man of much ability and great wealth. He was educated at the French Military College of St. Cyr, and served with credit as a captain in the French army in the war with Germany. He is possessed of great personal courage, and will probably make a strenuous and self-willed king. It is noted as a striking coincidence that King Alexander was murdered on the thirty-fifth anniversary of the murder of his great-uncle, Prince Michael Obrenovitch. It is equally interesting to recall that the father of Peter Karageorgevitch was convicted of complicity in that former murder, as an accessory before the fact."

There are already rumors that the army is not united on the choice of the new King, but the prevailing sentiment seems to be in his favor. Prince Karageorgevitch is nearly sixty years old. In an interview granted on June 12 he made the following interesting statement of his views of the revolution and of the

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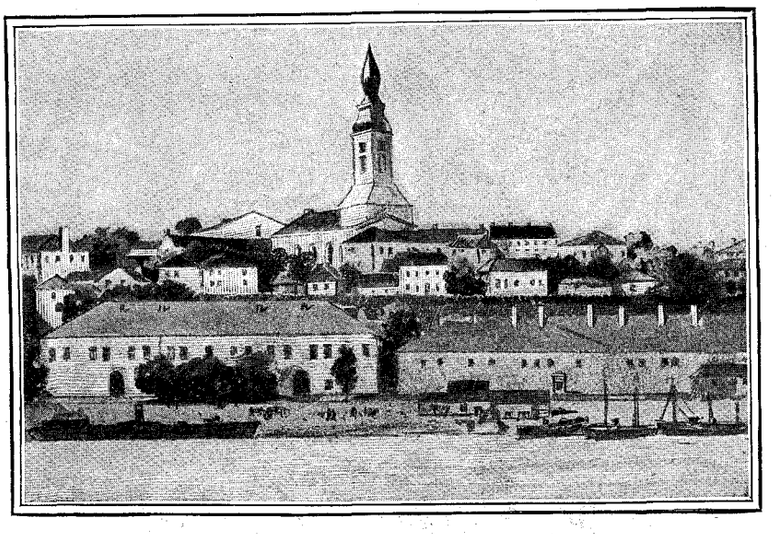
policy that he expects to pursue:

"My opinion of the execution of the King and Queen of Servia is this: I deeply regret that it has been thought necessary to shed streams of blood. I formally disapprove of the violent measures, and I especially deplore the fact that the army has had recourse to such measures—an army which has nobler tasks to accomplish than assassination. It would have sufficed to force King Alexander to sign his abdication. He could have been bound, as has been done in other circumstances. It is a horrible thing to shed blood.



GENERAL VIEW OF BELGRADE, THE SERVIAN CAPITAL.

"You ask what will be my attitude when I am in possession of the crown—we will assume that I am called to the throne. I shall not fail to take inspiration from the admirable institutions of Switzerland, which I have learned to appreciate highly. I am in favor of the absolute liberty of the press. I hope to see Servia prosper under the Constitution of 1889, which is very liberal.

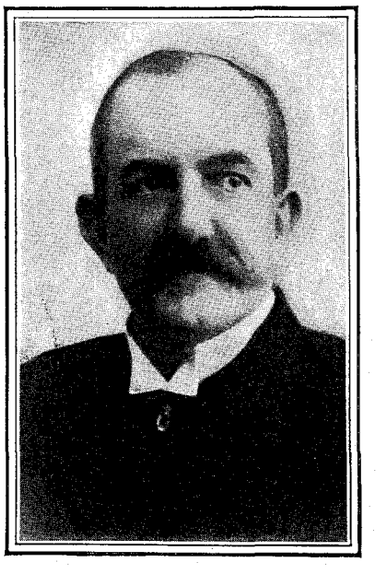
"Regarding foreign relations, it has been alleged that I am systematically hostile to Austria. That is false. Maybe I am in special sympathy with Russia, to which country I sent my boy in the hope that he would take service there."

A question of immediate interest, and one that is being discussed in the newspapers of all the leading countries, is that which turns upon the recognition of the new Servian Government. Can Christian Powers, it is asked, admit the legitimacy of a régime built upon slaughter? To this the New York *Evening Post* replies:

"The duty of one Government toward a change of rule in another country is exhausted, so far as the matter of recognition is concerned, when it has been ascertained that the latter is securely a *de facto* government. If it holds the capital, has the backing of the army, and exercises governmental functions throughout its territory, then there is nothing for other nations to do but recognize it, no matter if its credentials are blood-stained. We may think what we please, or must, of the new rulers, but if they are the real rulers of the land, then it is with them, officially, that all our public dealings must be had. Even the September massacres did not make the French republic any the less supreme *de facto;* and tho they shocked the friends of France and of humanity, like Fox and Romilly, did not alter the diplomatic situation. No more can the murders at Belgrade really affect the status of the new Servian Government in the eyes of international law.

"There is, nevertheless, a possibility of interference on other grounds. Any Power that is able to make out a vital national interest in the Servian situation is entitled to intervene—at its own risk, of course. . . . Servia does not stand alone. Her fate is inextricably bound up with that of Bulgaria and Macedonia. And it must not be forgotten that the whole Turkish question was considered to be pressingly acute even before the massacre at Belgrade burst upon the world. The program of Macedonian reform, extorted from the Sultan by the joint representations of Austria and Russia, has apparently been lost in the Danube. All that series of military and fiscal reforms upon which so many hopes were pinned—foolishly, as we thought—has, at any rate, dropped out of sight. Will the allied Powers now make even sterner demands of the Turk? Will the Macedonian revolutionists be spurred to fresh activities? These are only a few of the questions which spring to every one's lips, but which few will undertake to answer. All that is certain is that nothing is certain in the present state of the troubled Balkans."

QUEEN NATALIE.



KING MILAN.

The parents of the murdered King.

AMERICAN VIEWS OF THE CHAMBERLAIN PROGRAM.

THE view generally expressed in the American press is that Mr. Chamberlain has made a serious political mistake and one that imperils his future career. This view is brought out by the debate, June 9–10, in the House of Commons, on Mr. Chaplin's amendment proposing to retain the wheat duties imposed last year for war revenue, and the repeal of which was provided for in the budget. The amendment did not, under the ruling of the speaker, throw open Mr. Chamberlain's preferential tariff to general debate, but it brought out, nevertheless, many incidental expressions of opinion on the subject, and the emphasis with which all members of the Government who took part in the debate declared in favor of free trade, and the large vote (424 to 24) by which the Chaplin amendment was defeated, are interpreted by American editors as a moral defeat for Mr. Chamberlain's proposition. Mr. Balfour, in closing the debate, frankly admitted the differences of opinion in the Cabinet, but insisted that such differences are admissible and inevitable, and that as long as the Cabinet *acts* in harmony all essential unity is preserved. He did not commit himself unreservedly to Mr. Chamberlain's "advanced program," but expressed a conviction that the new industrial conditions that confront Great Britain—

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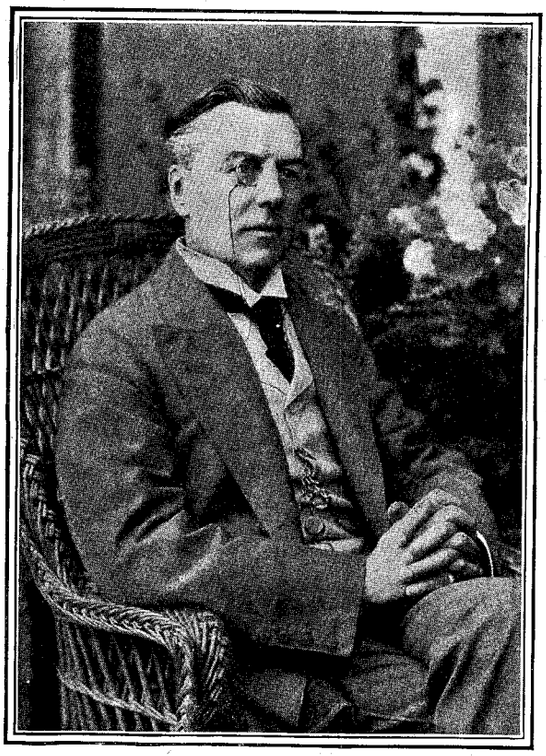
the high tariff walls erected by other nations, the growth of great trusts behind those walls, and the desire of the British colonies for closer fiscal union with the empire—called for a reconsideration of the present industrial system, tho he disclaimed any belief that this reconsideration would ever result in a return to the old protective policy.

"The clear logic of the situation, with a man of Mr. Chamberlain's pride," says the Springfield *Republican*, "is his resignation;" and the Philadelphia *Ledger* can not see how Mr. Chamberlain "can retain a position in a cabinet which disclaims his pet policy." The New York *Journal of Commerce* remarks:

"It was made plain that the Colonial Secretary, who has been credited with so much political astuteness, had made a prodigious blunder, and that the head of the responsible ministry had been led by his overpowering mastery into a dreadful snare, from which it would be difficult to extricate himself. So strong and so evident is the sentiment against any departure from the policy under which Great Britain has gained its wealth and power that under ordinary circumstances a fall of the Cabinet and an appeal to the country would be expected. But evidently the Cabinet is not with the Prime Minister and the Colonial Secretary in this matter, and their own party will not support them. The logical sequence of such a situation would be their withdrawal, but this is not a direct issue before Parliament or before the country at present, and doubtless they will try to stave it off with soothing words and a yielding attitude, and so allay the commotion they have so unwittingly raised. . . . At all events the prestige of Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Balfour is so seriously damaged that it is hard to see how it can be repaired, while it is made very clear that those who calculated upon Great Britain's abandoning the policy of free trade were reckoning for the colonies without the English host."



A NEW PORTRAIT OF JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN.

Some papers believe that Mr. Balfour has made as great a mistake as Mr. Chamberlain. "The usefulness of Mr. Balfour as Premier," says the New York *Herald*, "is seriously impaired if not destroyed, by close association with the ever-meddling and muddling man from Birmingham."

In other quarters the view is taken that even the defeat of Mr. Chamberlain would not necessarily involve the ruin of his principle. "It is certain that the British electorate is not yet prepared to reverse the present free-trade policy of the country," says the Brooklyn *Eagle*, "but it is equally certain that some such scheme as that suggested by Mr. Chamberlain must be accepted before long if the British empire is ever to enjoy political and economic homogeneity." The New York *Press*, a strong protection paper, says:

"Beyond the sensation of a Cabinet divided against itself and a Government indorsed by the opposition on a proposition which, by inference, negatives the policy of the Premier and his strongest colleague, the present debate in Parliament means little. . . .

"The question which Mr. Chamberlain has raised can not be smothered by Parliament. It will grow in interest and will demand a verdict from the voter, and will lose none of its force merely because Mr. Chamberlain may not remain a member of the Cabinet. A new party in England formed to cope with new situations, viewing conditions of trade and labor as they actually exist, and regarding the empire as something the unity of which is essential to England itself, is among the very probable happenings of the immediate future."

THE LION TAMER.
—*The Minneapolis Journal.*

SPENDS SO MUCH TIME FIXING HIMSELF THE OTHER FELLOW MAY WIN HER.
—*The St. Paul Pioneer Press.*

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S POLICY IN CARTOON.

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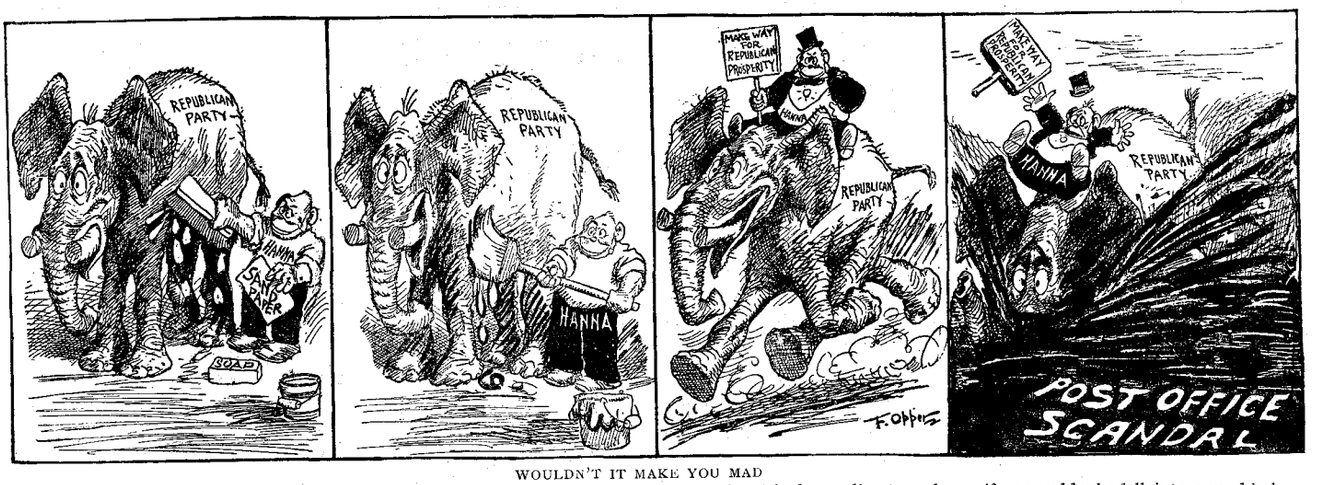

WOULDN'T IT MAKE YOU MAD

—after your keeper had scrubbed you thoroughly,

—and he had given you a good coat of whitewash,

—and you had proudly started out for a promenade,

—if you suddenly fell into a mud hole, as above? Wouldn't it JAR you?

—*The New York American.*

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE POSTAL SCANDAL.

THE latest developments in the postal investigation at Washington lead very generally to the conclusion, voiced by the Hartford *Times* (Ind. Dem.), that the whole service is "seriously demoralized." The report of the Civil-Service Commission on an investigation conducted at Postmaster-General Payne's request into S. W. Tulloch's damaging charges against the Post-Office (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, May 30) was made public on June 13, and in many essential points sustains Mr. Tulloch's accusations. Says the New York *World* (Dem.):

"The report of the Civil-Service Commission shows conclusively that Postmaster-General Payne's laborious efforts to discredit Tulloch were simply a part of his policy of 'hushing up' the postal scandals in the supposed interest of the party. The Civil-Service Commission reports, in substance:

1. That for several years past the Washington Post-Office has been used as a dumping-ground for large numbers of unnecessary employees.
2. That the Civil-Service law has been evaded as to its letter and violated as to its spirit by transfers from outside offices to the Washington Post-Office of persons not entitled to Civil-Service positions.
3. That most of these unlawful appointments and transfers 'were directed by the department or requested or suggested by high department officials.'

"In short, this report of the Civil-Service Commission fully justifies the charge that, under the administration of First Assistant Postmaster-General Perry S. Heath, the vast patronage of the Post-Office Department was practically put at the disposal of Mr. Hanna for political uses. In the city of Washington alone four hundred persons, the report declares, were improperly appointed to office while Heath was presiding. There are fourteen larger cities in the country than Washington, and the same unlawful use of the postal patronage as spoils was going on under Heath in all of them."

One phase of the scandal touches Postmaster General Payne himself, who is charged with bringing to Washington a "confidential secretary," for whom a special salary was "fixed up." Postmaster Van Cott, of New York, is also held responsible for sundry "irregularities," and it is said that his son, who holds a position as superintendent of delivery, is likely to be compelled to resign.

The President has actively interested himself in the postal investigation since his return from the West, and, according to press despatches, will insist upon a complete reorganization of the divisions in which there has been robbery. It is announced that he will also make some recommendations to Congress for the passage of laws designed to prevent the recurrence of dishonesty. Says the Washington correspondent of the Boston *Transcript* (Rep.):

"It is generally believed in Washington that, altho a wrong-doer here and there may still be brought to book, the department has got through the worst of its purging. Nothing like a 'network of conspiracy' has been discovered, or is likely to be. A few unprincipled or overambitious men have had their individual flings in places of authority. There has been in the postal service, as there is in government business always and everywhere, considerable needless waste. The pending investigation will, where it is possible, correct this for the future; and for some years to come we shall see good discipline, a highly concentrated responsibility, and a more careful enforcement of checks and balances than heretofore, in all the Federal offices, as a result of the airing given to a few abuses of power in this one."

The Philadelphia *Record* (Dem.), however, is not so sanguine as to results. It says:

"There is brave talk in Washington about excluding politics from the Post-Office Department and running it on business

GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF IT.

—*The Baltimore Herald.*

principles. Nothing will come of it except to get the present rascals out. While the department is officered by politicians, and goes to a Congress of politicians for its appropriations, and is capable of exerting an influence in favor of the head politician of all—the gentleman who happens for the time being to occupy the White House—the department will be run primarily for political purposes, and only incidentally for the purposes its name suggests. This will go on until the people shall take such an

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interest in a reformed civil service—a public service that shall serve the public rather than the party in possession of the Government—that it will be unpopular to use any of the departments for political purposes."

CHARLES EMORY SMITH ON THE PENNSYLVANIA LIBEL LAW.

A NOTABLE contribution to the discussion of the recently enacted Pennsylvania libel law (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, May 23) is made by ex-Postmaster-General Charles Emory Smith in the pages of *The Independent*. Mr. Smith handles the questions at issue with unusual candor and vigor, and his position as editor of one of the most influential Pennsylvania newspapers, the Philadelphia *Press*, gives his words a certain authority. His version of the facts of the case follows:

"Judge Samuel W. Pennypacker was elected governor of Pennsylvania last November. During the preliminary campaign he had been keenly criticized and caricatured in a few quarters. His quaint personality and certain conspicuous mental traits and tastes lent themselves to caricature in peculiar degree, and tempted the caustic pencil of the clever cartoonist. His bucolic appearance, his disheveled hair, his phlegmatic face, his negligent attire, his eccentricity of wearing boots, all invited picturesque portraiture.

GOVERNOR PENNYPACKER, OF PENNSYLVANIA,

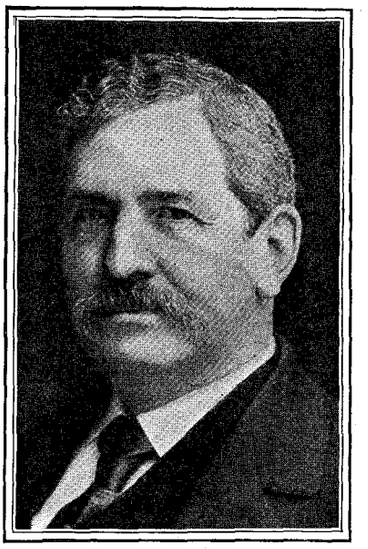
Who is described as the victim of "the greatest outburst of criticism and caricature which has overwhelmed any man within public memory."

"His intellectual qualities and exhibitions gave special zest to the delicious opportunity. He is a man of rugged honesty and inherent rectitude of character. He has considerable learning and marked taste for historical study and antiquarian research within limited lines. But with them he has a guileless simplicity, an unsophisticated ineptness, and a curious mental twist which lead him into ludicrous displays that afford an unbounded theme for satire. It is enough to refer, as examples, to his famous sayings that Senator Quay, a cousin in a remote degree, is a greater man than Clay or Webster, and that Pennsylvania, reeking at the time with political corruption, had no ills worth mentioning.

"All these elements made him the butt of jest and picture. He was portrayed as a perverse parrot and a flustered farmer. It was a new, surprising, and painful revelation to him. He had lived a tranquil and serene life on the bench and amid his musty volumes. To be held up day after day to criticism and ridicule was an unwonted and harrowing experience. Unhappily, with his other good and bad qualities he has no more sense of humor than a clam. The cartoons did him no harm beyond the delineation of his own folly, and if he had laughed them off that would have been the end of it. But they wounded and pricked and stuck like chestnut-burrs. He writhed under their sting; they not only hurt his pride, but offended his exaggerated sense of the reverence due to authority; and as he brooded over them he studied what he conceived would be the appropriate remedy."

The result was that, in his inaugural address as governor, Mr. Pennypacker dwelt on what he considered the abuses of journalism and urged more restrictive legislation. His personal grievance and desire, remarks Mr. Smith, "chimed in with the feelings and purposes of the politicians." They, too, "had been caricatured, and, what was still more annoying to their less sensitive but more practical natures, their schemes of spoliation had been exposed, denounced, and, in some cases, defeated by the inconsiderate and audacious press." And so, with plans well laid, the new libel bill was introduced and "rushed through both Houses in four days, without any hearing and in utter disregard of the constitutional safeguard requiring three separate readings on three separate days in each House." Mr. Smith continues:

"In the face of the most earnest protests, the governor signed the bill and filed it with an explanatory message, which, it is safe to say, is the most remarkable paper that ever emanated from an executive. In its blending of honest resentment, of personal venom, of misleading half-truths, of unaccountable misstatement, of fantastic reasoning, and of unconscious buffoonery, it is unparalleled among official documents. It was immediately followed by the greatest outburst of criticism and caricature which has overwhelmed any man within public memory. The governor instantly became the target of a thousand shafts of denunciation and ridicule. Not only in Pennsylvania, but all over the country his act and his reasons called down such a storm of condemnation as no other single performance of our time has brought upon any public man. The futility of the law for its avowed object of suppressing cartoon and criticism was attested in the most general and vigorous cannonade of both in the whole history of journalism."



CHARLES EMORY SMITH,

Who declares that the new libel law is "one of the most infamous measures ever enacted by an American legislature."

Of the law itself, Mr. Smith speaks in no uncertain terms. He quotes with approval the statement of the New York *Sun* that "it bears on its face the aim of preventing criticism of state officials," and continues:

"This is undoubtedly its design. The object was openly avowed by its authors and sponsors. They sought to stifle criticism and prevent exposure. But, so far as can now be judged, their skill was not commensurate with their purpose. The constitutional safeguard for a free printing-press in dealing with public affairs stood in their way, and they did not know how to evade it. But in framing their bill their clumsy hand put in provisions of the most serious character, and a critical examination does not justify the claim that it only codifies the law as it already was. It introduces the new principle of making an article actionable where there is no libel, provided it can be shown that there was 'negligence in the ascertainment of facts'—that is, that there was any mistake at any point. The obvious intent is to make a newspaper punishable for publishing the essential truth, and to surround the publication with such hazards as to deter it altogether. If this object could be carried out it can readily be seen how it would serve and shield wrong-doers throughout the State.

"With this understanding of the import of the law, it is no exaggeration to characterize it as one of the most infamous measures ever enacted by an American legislature. . . . The viciousness of the new Pennsylvania law is that it is a backward step, flying in the face of the whole course of libel legislation in other States; that it is a deliberate attempt to terrorize the press and stifle public criticism; and that it is the joint product of personal pique and public piracy. The struggle over it in the courts

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SIGNALING MARS.
—*The New York Press.*

MUST LET GO SOMEWHERE.
—*The Brooklyn Eagle.*

DEMOCRATIC TROUBLES CARICATURED.

and before the people and in the legislature will be one of the most interesting and important chapters in the history of political progress."

MR. BRYAN AND THE PROBLEMS OF DEMOCRATIC REORGANIZATION.

THE future of the Democratic party is a subject of wide interest in political circles just now, and seems likely to remain so for some time to come. Who is to be the next Democratic nominee for President? Will the conservative Democrats, represented by Mr. Cleveland, or the radical Democrats, represented by Mr. Bryan, win the reins of party supremacy during the months ahead? Is it the part of wisdom for the Democratic party to pursue a more radical or a more conservative policy? These and similar questions are being warmly discussed by papers of every political hue. The Springfield *Republican* (Ind.) is impressed by the fact that "the nation needs now more than ever an opposition leader of youth, aggressiveness, and power, who may serve as a foil to Mr. Roosevelt"; and in a recent issue it pleads with Mr. Bryan to abandon "free silver" and adopt the "sane opportunism" which might give to him that position of leadership. It declares:

"The Nebraskan holds to the cadaver of free silver with all his might. This means that either in success or defeat at the next national convention of his party, Mr. Bryan will continue to be bound to that issue. If successful in dominating the convention, he would make free silver a body of death in the Democratic policy. If thrown out, by the final authority of the convention, from party leadership, Mr. Bryan would find himself in a desperate position in American politics, which has never yet shown tenderness to dead issues or to leaders who have demanded the impossible. By every testimony which the world affords, the rehabilitation of silver is out of the question, for at least a generation. . . . . .

"The only vital political radicalism of our time has aspirations and programs in which the bimetallic question has no place. Search Europe, and where is there a popular leader who gives a moment's thought to free silver? There are men of brains among the Social Democrats of Germany and France. Bebel and Jaurès are men of large intellect and wide reading. Silverism forms no part of their policy. It is well known, too, that the free-silver cause in America has never made headway among the wage-earners of our cities; and they are the men who give strength to labor-unionism and must be reached by any party of political radicalism that craves a future in America. It is a fact whose significance George Fred Williams, at least, must appreciate, even if Mr. Bryan can not, that downright socialism has shown more capacity for growth in Massachusetts than ever free silver did. Now political radicalism in this country, if it is to make progress, must be able to enlist the support of those wage-earners who throng the cities and towns of that great Northern belt, stretching from Massachusetts Bay to the Mississippi River. The South, which is becoming more and more aristocratic and dominated by caste ideas on account of the race question, must be left largely out of the equation. The radical Democracy of the future, as a political force, must find its proper field in the populous North, and it must be less agrarian and more purely industrialist in its appeal to the voters."

To this Mr. Bryan replies (in *The Commoner*):

"While the editor of *The Commoner* appreciates the generous advice given him, his respect for *The Republican* compels him to answer with the same frankness with which it has spoken. He is not seeking leadership. Neither is he concerned about his 'political position in future years'; no man is in position to do his duty who is controlled by the ambition to be a leader or who is always looking out for his own political future. Leadership is not secured in that way, neither can one insure his political position in future years by centering his thoughts upon his own interests. Nominal leadership in a party is determined by the action of the convention, but leadership in thought and in political action is entirely independent of caucuses and conventions. He leads who proposes the wisest measures and defends them with the strongest argument. No one can see the truth who constantly gazes at himself. Those find truth who seek for it—who seek not casually or carelessly, but earnestly and constantly. The best evidence that one can give of his faith in a truth is to be willing to suffer for it. Christ gave utterance to a principle of wide application when He said: 'He that findeth his life shall lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake shall find it.' So it may be said of truth. He whose only object is to save his own political life will lose it, and will deserve to lose it, but he who is willing to lose his life for the sake of a cause or a principle, triumphs with the cause or principle to which he adheres; he grows with it and enjoys the confidence of those who are wedded to it. The advocates of the Chicago and Kansas City platforms have shown their willingness to suffer for their convictions. Why should they pretend a confession of error when they believe that they were right? Why pretend that the issue is past, when

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it is still upon us, and must remain? Why ignore, for the sake of a few offices, a fierce conflict between money and manhood? Why delude ourselves with the belief that a real or even a nominal victory can be won by a sacrifice of the people's interest to the cold, cruel, and merciless dictation of monopolists and magnates, in whom love of money has extinguished the feeling of brotherhood. . . . . .

"Opportunism is a good or bad word according to its definition. If it means a willingness on the part of one to change his principles in order to compass individual success, it is a most offensive word; if it means that one employs new facts, new incidents, and new conditions to give expression to his principles, it is an entirely proper word. Every man and every party must utilize circumstances and conditions to advance principles, but no man or party can justify the abandonment of principles for selfish gain."

BLACKMAIL BY WALKING DELEGATES.

AN astonishing amount of corruption in the New York labor movement seems to have been revealed by the investigations of District-Attorney Jerome. Several weeks ago, Mr. Jerome declared before the Central Federated Union that evidence was in his possession showing that more than one "walking delegate" in New York City was using his position to line his own pockets. He has followed up his statement by securing the arrest of Samuel J. Parks, business agent of the Housesmiths and Bridgemen's Union, and of Richard Carvel, business agent of the Derrickmen, Riggers, and Pointers' Union. Both men are charged with "extortion" in accepting checks to call off strikes. It appears that Parks himself admits the receipt of $2,000 from the president of the Hecla Iron Works, Brooklyn, as the price of a strike settlement in April, 1902; but he claims that the money was used for union purposes. The district attorney, on the other hand, alleges that this is "but one of a number of similar transactions in which we have reason to believe that the defendant has been involved," and declares that Parks has accumulated wealth on the strength of his trade-union leadership. Mr. Jerome further instances the case of a recent strike during the erection of the Union Club building in New York, charging that about $17,000 was subscribed by employing cabinet-makers and decorators, and by the club itself, and was turned over to five walking delegates, who "deliberately sold out" the Amalgamated Painters and Decorators' Union.

These revelations have aroused considerable interest throughout the country. The Chicago *Evening Post* says:

"What the public is chiefly concerned with is the moral certainty that extortion, bribery, and graft are altogether too common in the sphere of union activity. In the words of District-Attorney Jerome, who is certainly not an enemy of organized labor, 'the bulk of labor men are honest and desirous of doing the right thing. The trouble is that the executive machinery of organized labor is operated for the benefit of a few only.' Unfit, rash, bigoted, and even corrupt men are too often elected to office and entrusted with extraordinary power. Under these circumstances, blackmail and extortion are almost inevitable. . . . Is Chicago free from this evil? One likes to think so, but the facts forbid, and some employers could doubtless tales unfold which would astonish and disgust many a faithful and honest unionist. Labor must learn to beware of the glib tongue and to elect none but conservative and fair men to office. It must likewise shackle the walking delegate and deprive him of a considerable amount of his present 'discretion.' To give him the power to call a strike is to invite corruption and tyranny."

The New York *Journal of Commerce* comments:

"What is conspicuously shown by this revelation is the need of reform, not only in the methods of labor-unions in this city, but in the methods of employers in dealing with them, and it is time for honest and fair-minded men on both sides to join their forces to put down the abuses which are costing both so dearly and inflicting immense loss upon the whole community. The unions must discard the aggressive and arrogant leaders who have forced themselves to the front, and put in their places men of intelligence and reason, capable of dealing with the business questions involved in their relations with capitalists and disposed to be fair and just. They must seek to avoid conflicts and not to cause them, to promote the processes of industry and interchange and not interrupt and hinder them, to preserve the conditions of prosperity and not destroy them. On the other hand, it is useless for employers to seek to extirpate the unions and to prevent labor organization. But they must insist upon dealing with them only on sound principles and take a firm stand against unreasonable demands and illegal and unjust methods."

The Philadelphia *Record* takes the view that, on the whole, the labor movement is singularly free from corrupt influences. It says:

"Why should more be expected of the walking delegates, often needy workingmen, than is expected of other men in a like representative or judiciary capacity? Is their temptation to succumb to corrupting influences any less than that of members of state legislatures and city councils? When a workingman acquires influence as a leader and organizer among his fellows, it has long been the policy of industrial corporations to win him over to their own service by hook or by crook. A few years ago John Jarrett was a prominent organizer of the iron and steel workers in Pittsburg, but he soon obtained more profitable employment under the Tinplate Association, which made him a useful agent to distribute campaign funds where they would do the most good in Congressional districts represented by Democratic opponents of spoliatory duties on tin-plate. There are other instances of the same kind, but they are a good deal more rare than is imagined. The betrayal of the cause of labor is so rare, in fact, that there is an evident purpose to give as much éclat and dramatic effect as possible to this case of Walking-Delegate Samuel Parks."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

A SOUTH CAROLINA citizen was killed by an exploding soda-fountain. Soda-water is effective whether applied externally or internally.—*The Atlanta Journal.*

SINCE the development of the scandals in the Post-Office, it is no wonder that George Washington's face on the postage-stamps looks so red.—*The Baltimore American.*

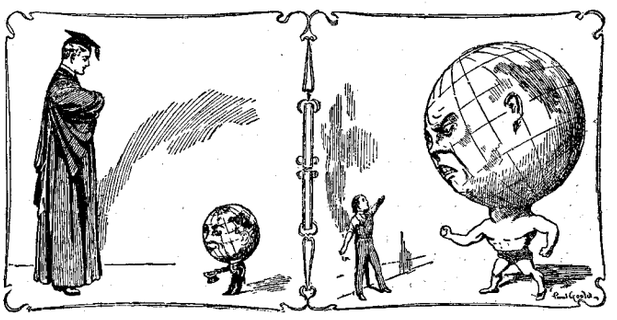
ANY one who will look over the illustrated journals will appreciate at once that President Roosevelt has also made sure of the solid vote of the photographers.—*The Chicago News.*

AS the President said in his Springfield speech, government is neither for the rich nor the poor, but the rich have a certain advantage of being able to contribute to the campaign fund.—*The Detroit Free Press.*

A ROLL of bills stopped a bullet which struck a Chicago man in the breast, thus saving his life. Yet there are reckless people who will go right ahead day after day without a roll of bills on their persons.—*The Kansas City Journal.*

GOVERNOR BAILEY of Kansas announces that he will appoint no one to office who has not a bank account. This is an unreasonable rule indeed. How are some men to get bank accounts till after they are appointed to office?—*The Providence Journal.*

IT is understood that Postmaster-General Payne, in recognition of the energy, fearlessness, and determination with which he has run down the post-office frauds, will be offered the position of chief of the secret service of the Russian empire.—*The New York Evening Post.*



HOW THE WORLD LOOKS TO A COLLEGE MAN JUST BEFORE GRADUATING, AND THE WAY IT LOOKS A YEAR AFTER.
—*The New York Times.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

THE OLD EPIC AND THE NEW.

THE latest addition to the "English Men of Letters Series" is the biography of Robert Browning, written by G. K. Chesterton. The book is likely to make something of a literary sensation. People will either greatly admire or greatly condemn, for the writer has not bound himself by any of the old-time judgments. What he has brought to view is the fact that literary material is endlessly rich when to it is brought a mind capable of seeing new things.

A number of quotable subjects might be taken from the book, but perhaps the freshest and at the same time the most comprehensive, as revealing both the character of Browning's genius and the resultant character of his greatest achievement, is the biographer's comment on "The Ring and the Book."

Mr. Chesterton asserts that the essence of "The Ring and the Book" is that it is the great epic of the nineteenth century, because it is the great epic of the enormous importance of small things. The supreme difference that divides "The Ring and the Book" from all the great poems of similar length and largeness of design is precisely the fact that all these are about affairs commonly called important, and "The Ring and the Book" is about an affair commonly called contemptible. Homer says:

"I will show you the relations between man and heaven as exhibited in a great legend of love and war, which shall contain the mightiest of all mortal warriors and the most beautiful of all mortal women." The author of the Book of Job says: "I will show you the relations between man and heaven by a tale of primeval sorrows and the voice of God out of a whirlwind." Vergil says: "I will show you the relations of man to heaven by the tale of the origin of the greatest people and the founding of the most wonderful city in the world." Dante says: "I will show you the relations of man to heaven by uncovering the very machinery of the spiritual universe, and letting you hear as I have heard the roaring of the mills of God." Milton says: "I will show you the relations of man to heaven by telling you of the very beginning of all things, and the first shaping of the thing that is evil in the first twilight of time." Browning says: "I will show you the relations of man to heaven by telling you a story out of a dirty Italian book of criminal trials, from which I select one of the meanest and most completely forgotten."

Browning is taken by Mr. Chesterton to be the supreme embodiment of his time—a time, by the way, in all of whose movements may be discovered the apotheosis of the insignificant; that is, insignificant in its most general sense. In line with him are others, such as Maeterlinck, Zola, George Meredith, and Bernard Shaw, who have "ceased to believe certain things to be important and the rest to be unimportant." The author proceeds with some humor to assert that "they all have become terribly impressed with, and a little bit alarmed at, the mysterious powers of small things; their difference from the old epic poets is the whole difference between an age that fought with dragons and an age that fights with microbes." The following paragraph amplifies and illuminates this idea:

"This tide of the importance of small things is flowing so steadily around us upon every side to-day, that we do not sufficiently realize that if there was one man in English literary history who might with justice be called its fountain and origin, that man was Robert Browning. When Browning arose, literature was entirely in the hands of the Tennysonian poet. The Tennysonian poet does indeed mention trivialities, but he mentions them when he wishes to speak trivially; Browning mentions trivialities when he wishes to speak sensationally. Now this sense of the terrible importance of detail was a sense which may be said to have possessed Browning in the emphatic manner of a demoniac possession. Sane as he was, this one feeling might have driven him to a condition not far from madness. Any room that he was sitting in glared at him with innumerable eyes and mouths gaping with a story. There was sometimes no background and no middle distance in his mind. A human face and the pattern on the wall behind it came forward with equally aggressive clearness. It may be repeated, that if ever he who had the strongest head in the world had gone mad it would have been through this turbulent democracy of things. If he looked at a porcelain vase or an old hat, a cabbage or a puppy at play, each began to be bewitched with the spell of a kind of fairyland of philosophers; the vase, like the jar in the 'Arabian Nights,' to send up a smoke of thoughts and shapes; the hat to produce souls, as a conjurer's hat produces rabbits; the cabbage to swell and overshadow the earth, like the Tree of Knowledge; and the puppy to go off at a scamper along the road to the end of the world. Any one who has read Browning's longer poems knows how constantly a simile or a figure of speech is selected, not among the large, well-recognized figures common in poetry, but from some dusty corner of experience; and how often it is characterized by smallness and a certain quaint exactitude, which could not have been found in any more usual example. Thus, for instance, Prince Hohensteel-Schwangan explains the psychological meaning of all his restless and unscrupulous activities by comparing them to the impulse which has just led him, even in the act of talking, to draw a black line on the blotting-paper exactly so as to connect two separate blots that were already there. This queer example is selected as the best possible instance of a certain fundamental restlessness and desire to add a touch to things in the spirit of man. I have no doubt whatever that Browning thought of the idea after doing the thing himself, and sat in a philosophical trance staring at a piece of inked blotting-paper, conscious that at that moment, and in that insignificant act, some immemorial monster of the mind, nameless from the beginning of the world, had risen to the surface of the spiritual sea."

A second great distinction pointed out by Mr. Chesterton between the older epic poet and Robert Browning is that in one the poet did all the talking and in the other the people of the epic are the speakers. "The poet in his ancient office held a kind of terrestrial day of judgment, and gave men halters and halos. Browning gives men neither halter nor halo; he gives them voices." To state this leads logically to the statement of the second aspect in which "The Ring and the Book" is the great epic of the age. Says Mr. Chesterton:

"It is the great epic of the age because it is the expression of the belief, it might almost be said of the discovery, that no man ever lived upon this earth without possessing a point of view. No one ever lived who had not a little more to say for himself than any formal system of justice was likely to say for him. It is scarcely necessary to point out how entirely the application of this principle would revolutionize the old heroic epic, in which the poet decided absolutely the moral relations and moral value of the characters. Suppose, for example, that Homer had written the 'Odyssey' on the principle of 'The Ring and the Book'; how disturbing, how weird an experience it would be to read the story from the point of view of Antinous! Without contradicting a single material fact, without telling a single deliberate lie, the narrative would so change the whole world around us that we should scarcely know we were dealing with the same place and people. The calm face of Penelope would, it may be, begin to grow meaner before our eyes, like a face changing in a dream. She would begin to appear as a fickle and selfish woman, passing falsely as a widow, and playing a double game between the attentions of foolish but honorable young men, and the fitful appearances of a wandering and good-for-nothing sailor-husband; a man prepared to act that most well-worn of melodramatic rôles, the conjugal bully and blackmailer, the man who uses marital rights as an instrument for the worst kind of wrongs. Or, again, if we had the story of the fall of King Arthur told from the standpoint of Mandred, it would only be a matter of a word or two; in a turn, in the twinkling of an eye, we should find ourselves sympathizing with the efforts of an earnest young man to frustrate the profligacies of high-placed paladins like Lancelot and Tristram, and ultimately discovering, with deep regret but unshaken moral courage, that there was no way to frustrate

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them, except by overthrowing the cold and priggish and incapable egotist who ruled the country, and the whole artificial and bombastic schemes which bred these moral evils. It might be that, in spite of this new view of the case, it would ultimately appear that Ulysses was really right and Arthur was really right, just as Browning makes it ultimately appear that Pompilia was really right.

"But any one can see the enormous difference in scope and difficulty between the old epic which told the whole story from one man's point of view, and the new epic which can not come to its conclusion until it has digested and assimilated views as paradoxical and disturbing as our imaginary defense of Antinous and apologia of Mandred."

A DRAMATIC INVASION THAT FAILED.

IT would appear that certain preconceived and deeply rooted ideas in regard to things artistic coming from America possess the popular mind in Germany to such an extent that a German critic who would praise an American play or picture must do so in the rôle of an apologist. At least this is the impression conveyed by Christian A. Luhnow, in a letter to the Boston *Transcript* (June 3), dated from Berlin. Mr. Luhnow makes the recent failure, on the Berlin stage, of David Belasco's play, "Du Barry," the text for what he has to say on more general subjects. But, first, we quote concerning the fate of the play:

"With much flourishing of the advertising trumpets and with the feuilletons of the daily newspapers devoting columns to the 'Sensationsstücke' produced on the American stage, the Theater des Westens boldly produced David Belasco's 'Du Barry' the other night, with Frau Helene Odilon, a talented actress, in the leading rôle of Countess Du Barry. It was David Belasco's début upon a Berlin stage, and, in fact, 'Du Barry' is the first genuine American dramatic product, supposed to represent the highest standard of dramatic development in young America, which has found its way to the continental European stage.

"By common consent, Berlin's critics agreed the following morning that dramatic art in the United States is still in swaddling-clothes, and that when the dramatic situations are not ludicrous they are pathetic—but not the pathos that the author intended to convey. Whereas the management of the Theater des Westens had promised itself crowded houses and an avalanche of gold as the fruit of its enterprise in opening its doors to the 'American dramatic invasion,' there was an empty void of seats. At one fell swoop the Berlin critics, whom Sudermann characterized as barbarians and raw, dealt a deathblow to the American drama on the German stage."

The following apology, published in its program by the management of the theater even before the storm of denunciation had been let loose, is significant and illuminating:

"We still cherish a prejudice against American art. As a matter of fact, we can hear them say, 'And must this come too,' when we recall the sky-scrapers of Chicago, the ugly architecture of the cathedral on Fifth Avenue, and the transatlantic theatrical pieces with which we have already become acquainted. On the other hand, we have been aroused to enthusiasm in this very playhouse but a short time ago when Miss Sarah Duncan, of California, appeared before us and succeeded in elevating to ideality and the esthetic the most sensual of all forms of art-dancing. It showed us that even in the country across the ocean, with its enmity for all fine forms of art and its dilettanteism in art, they are beginning to awaken thoughts and ideals which are new to even the old lands of culture on this side. Does it not seem as fitting for an old Prussian squire to immigrate to the United States in order to teach the cowboy there how to manipulate the lasso? Yet it is true that former Prussian guard officers and lieutenants grace New York restaurants as waiters to-day. Perhaps the spirit of culture is conveyed to the United States and grows there just as the steer is raised in the far West and we receive canned beef from the New World. We wish to say herewith that whoever wants to portray art in America may do it without much effort. Do they not avail themselves over there of the extracts of our labors in art and culture? For they are standing upon the shoulders of ten thousand years of old-world culture. That explains the fact that we may see a Miss Duncan reviving the Hellenic terpsichorean art and the Greek ideals, and also explains the fact that in David Belasco America may boast of its own Victorien Sardou."

Even this did not soften the hearts of the Berlin critics, who could see in the play only an example of "American sensationalism." Further, we are told that Mr. Charles Frohman, about a year ago, closed a contract with a local theatrical agency for the right to produce American dramatic triumphs upon the German stage, but that nothing ever came of the scheme:

"None of the acknowledged first-class, much less the second- and third-class, playhouses of Berlin would sacrifice its renown by opening its portals to American sensationalism. Grave councils were held by the directors and their assistants. But they agreed that the German public looked upon America not as a country from which to import dramas and high-class plays, but as the country from which Germany obtained its lard, preserved meats, petroleum, and Yankee notions."

Even Miss Duncan's dancing, already referred to, suffered at last, Mr. Luhnow tells us, from the popular incredulity in regard to anything artistic from America:

"Miss Sarah Duncan, who achieved her triumphs recently on the stage of the Theater des Westens, is a Californian by birth. Graceful and willowy in action, Miss Duncan succeeded in exhibiting her new terpsichorean art, her dance interpretations of Chopin and other masters of musical composition, with such refinement and grace that she was proclaimed the creator of a new art. The same Berlin critics who denounce Belasco's 'Du Barry' went into ecstasy over Miss Duncan's art. For three hours Miss Duncan danced before them and was able to hold and sustain their interest and admiration. But to-day there is hardly a low-class music hall or burlesque theater in Berlin which is not producing 'Duncan-can' dances, and there is no comic paper which has not poked its rather vulgar cartoons at Miss Duncan. 'An American teaching us anything ideal, or revealing to us a new art! Banish the thought.' That was finally the sum and substance of Berlin public opinion of Duncanism."

This year, for the first time in the history of the Berlin Annual Art Exhibition, there was a corner devoted to American pictures. In the opening address, this exhibit was "spoken of in awed tones as a new infant arrival and as something to be carefully nursed and tolerated." Turning again to other phases of art, the blind prejudice of the public is in some instances justified, writes Mr. Luhnow, by "the examples displayed here as typical":

"Last night, for example, Philip Sousa and his band appeared at the Philharmonic Hall for an engagement of ten concerts. There may be those who know that a Boston Symphony, a Theodore Thomas Orchestra, and other high-class musical institutions exist in the United States. But the vast majority are made to labor under the impression that Sousa typifies the highest development of American musical standards. Even such a distinguished body of musicians as the committee of the Wagner Memorial Association shares this impression. For Sousa has been invited to interpret American musical standards at the international festival. At the local theaters where the 'cake-walk' is the rage just now, this is gravely described as the national music of the Americans, and 'coon songs' are advertised in the show-windows as the shrine at which the best American talent worships and draws inspiration."

To quote again:

"There is always a ring of condescension when German commentators or critics dwell upon American artistic institutions or invasions. The feuilletons bring spicy stories intended to illuminate the ludicrous features of American artistic endeavors struggling in an aroma of illiteracy, factory smoke, and the scent of lard.

"The greatest Americans in the popular German eye are J. Pierpont Morgan, Thomas Edison, Roosevelt, Buffalo Bill, and the march king Sousa. Mark Twain is very much quoted as the greatest humorist. The bookstalls are filled with trashy 'Amerikanische' novels full of excitement and wild-West adventure.

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For public taste here demands such products and looks elsewhere for its higher intellectual food. The only recognition accorded the American stage are the 'knock-about' and acrobatic 'turns' at the Wintergarten, the Apollo, and Passage theaters. From these the masses here obtain their judgment of American theatrical standards and amusements. It is no wonder, therefore, that not one of the critics could summon up enough courage to say a word in praise of Belasco's 'Du Barry' as a work of dramatic strength and strong situations."

TOLSTOY ON LITERARY TOPICS.

A WRITER in the St. Petersburg *Novoye Vremya* gives an interesting account of a visit to Count Tolstoy's country home and a conversation with the famous author on literary topics of the day. Of the new dramas of Gorky and Chekhoff, the literary disciples and followers of Tolstoy, the master had a very unfavorable opinion. He is quoted as saying:

"'At the Bottom' [Gorky's latest play, of which a summary has appeared in THE LITERARY DIGEST] did not appeal to me. I have told Gorky that for a drama one must have a dramatic situation, while in his pieces this essential element is wanting. In fact, I can not comprehend the contemporary theater. I do not understand Chekhoff's plays, for example. Why should he undertake to show us on the stage how three young women find life dull and tedious? I have been reading about Octave Mirbeau's new play, 'Business is Business' ['Les Affaires sont les Affaires']. Here we have a truly dramatic situation. I rate this writer very highly. He reminds me of Maupassant. His is a bold, strong, and genuine talent, in which you feel the quality and the spirit of the Gaul. The French have not a little sentimentality and sensuality, but they also have vigorous, brilliant thinkers, who indeed guide and control the currents of Western thought and literary activity. I may name Anatole France, whom I admire greatly."

Count Tolstoy was led to discuss the types of the tramp, beggar, and semi-criminal outcast to which Russian fiction now assigns so important a place. He found fault with Gorky's one-sided characterization of this genus. Cruelty is not, he said, the chief trait of these gentry. He had studied them and had found them good-natured, frank, and philosophical. He had urged Gorky to emphasize this quality and to show that these people are wholly free from the sense of false shame or irrational fear—that they can rise without much difficulty, having firm ground under their feet. Tho "at the bottom," they never lose their equanimity, and realize perfectly that their destiny is in their own hands. They may be pitied, says Tolstoy, but to help them unduly is to encourage them to remain at the bottom, which is good neither for them nor for society.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

The Main Argument Against Realism.—In a favorable review of Prof. Bliss Perry's book, "A Study of Prose Fiction"—a review in which Professor Perry's judgment as a critic is spoken of as "generally unerring"—*The Athenæum* (London) says:

"The main argument against such work as Zola's, and that of others of that school who exactly conform to its philosophy, is somewhat deeper than any brought forward by Mr. Perry. It is that the art of fiction is not analytic, but synthetic. In a novel we are not invited into a dissecting-room or a laboratory, a point which the author evidently sees when he states that such analytical work 'fails to give us the image of palpitating, radiant life.' Art is creative, and we require for it not a scalpel, but a brush or a pencil—a pen, if you will. No doubt before the synthetical part of the writer's work analysis is often necessary; but with the great masters this is not so. The synthetic process of evolving, building up, and sustaining a character is obviously instinctive. One can not suppose that Thackeray first took to pieces Becky Sharp, or Dickens Pickwick. It is the unconscious exercise of the imagination that has produced the best works of fiction."

THE STORY OF COLERIDGE'S ELDEST SON.

A PERSONALITY of which fleeting glimpses are caught in various volumes of memoirs, such, for instance, as those of Tennyson, is that of Hartley Coleridge, the eldest son of the great poet and philosophizer. A pathetic interest has always attached to the son, and in making public some hitherto unpublished letters and verses of his, Mr. J. K. Hudson recounts the facts of his brilliant but ineffectual career.

Hartley was born near Bristol in 1796, but his boyhood was passed at Greta Hall, Keswick, his father sharing the house with the Southeys. Mr. Hudson writes (in *Temple Bar*, April):

"Physically, Hartley Coleridge was of diminutive and awkward appearance, scarcely more than five feet high, with unusually small head, clumsy shoulders, and small hands and feet. He had, however, beautiful hair and brilliant, flashing eyes. His hair grew prematurely gray, and was quite white before his death in 1849, in his fifty-third year. His brother tells us that he early acquired the gait and appearance of advanced age. His later portrait shows a broad forehead backed by a mane of abundant silver hair, strongly marked brows, and alert eyes. The face is somewhat marred by the wide nose and broad weak mouth.

"Wilkie's portrait of him at the age of ten shows a shapely head, with dark hair, delicate ears, oval face, rather high eyebrows, and wide-open pensive eyes. The prevailing expression, which gives the portrait its value and charm, is that dreaminess which above all characterized the child Hartley."

We are told that he was of a sensibility so extreme and beyond his control that he "could not open a letter without trembling." His father speaks of him at the age of seven as follows:

"A strange, strange boy, an utter visionary; like the moon among thin clouds, he moves in a circle of light of his own making; he alone is a light of his own. He has no vanity, no pride, no resentments; and tho very passionate, I never yet saw him angry with anybody. Tho seven years old, he is the merest child. His dispositions are very sweet, he is a great lover of truth and of the finest moral nicety of feelings, yet *always dreaming*."

During his early childhood, Hartley's mind was tormented by subtle metaphysical problems. At the age of five, he used to be "in an agony of thought, puzzling himself about the reality of existence." He soon displayed a surprising eloquence and effectiveness in conversation, and a wide grasp of facts. Yet always, we are told, the fantastic world of his imagination tended to eclipse for him the world of reality. When describing this waking dream-world in which he delighted, "he appeared absolutely convinced of the reality of his narratives and unconscious of the process of invention."

He went to Oxford in 1815, where his "downward declension" was dated. Rev. A. Dyce's description of him at this time is quoted:

"I remember him as a young man who possessed an intellect of the highest order, with great simplicity of character and considerable oddity of manner. His extraordinary power as a converser (or rather, a declaimer) procured for him numerous invitations to what are called at Oxford "wine parties." He knew that he was expected to talk, and talking was his delight. Leaning his head on one shoulder, turning up his dark bright eyes, and swinging backward and forward in his chair, he would hold forth by the hour (for no one wished to interrupt him) on whatever subject might have been started—either of literature, politics, or religion—with an originality of thought, a force of illustration, and a facility and beauty of expression which I question if any man then living, except his father, could have surpassed."

Continuing his own account, the writer in *Temple Bar* says:

"He was dowered with the melancholy of the artistic temperament, and was subject to fits of unreasoning despondency. He said once, 'I have even heard a voice, yes, not like a creation of the fancy, but an audible and sensuous voice, foreboding evil to me'; in such a mood his youthful poem 'Presentiment' was composed. His failure to win the Newdigate induced a depres-

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sion altogether disproportionate to the occasion; indeed, he dated from this event his 'downward declension, impotence of will, and melancholy recklessness.' He confesses, 'It was the first time I sought relief from wine.'

"The Oriel Fellowship was as usual granted in the first instance for a probationary period of twelve months. During this time Hartley, shy and diffident yet proud and defiant, felt under a kind of espionage against which he weakly rebelled. His Bohemian habits offended the clerical decorum of the Common Room, and were deemed highly undesirable in a resident Fellow. None of his new associates appear to have welcomed him with the sympathy which might have broken down the barrier of his supersensitive shyness, or to have read his character or felt his winning charm, or had any inkling of his inherent purity and religious feeling.

". . . His faults were glaring enough, from unpunctuality and disregard of the niceties of college etiquette, to occasional intemperance, failure as a tutor, and views on politics, religion, and university discipline, which were certainly liberal and appeared at times revolutionary. The very brilliance of his intellectual and conversational gifts made the possible influence of this reputed *enfant terrible* all the more dangerous; and the result of the whole matter was that at the close of the year of probation Hartley was deprived of his Fellowship, mainly on the ground of intemperance, while receiving a solatium of £300."

The remainder of his life is described as a record of brilliant beginnings and promise unfulfilled:

"The little rift within the lute—that infirmity of will which he inherited perhaps from his father—became increasingly apparent. Literary works were projected and begun, but soon abandoned; an attempt at schoolmastering at Ambleside proved, as indeed he foresaw from the first, a failure; the thought of taking holy orders was abandoned as presumptuous. In many respects he was admirably qualified for the work of a country clergyman, but he very rightly judged himself precluded by his besetting infirmity from entering upon it. For neither reason nor religion availed to shake off permanently the tyranny of the habit of intemperance which had been allowed to grow on him. Yet the sweetness and purity of his nature remained undimmed; he was deeply, unaffectedly religious; and herein lies the pitiful tragedy of his life. . . . He lived with the greatest simplicity and economy, spending his time largely in reading, meditation, and writing. Of the literary outcome of these quiet years—alas! too scanty—it is no part of the present sketch to attempt any elaborate criticism. In poetry his performance was sadly inadequate to his gifts. Unstable as water, the curse of Reuben lay on him. The lines on November, displaying a Shakespearian fancy and beauty of diction, and the fragment of a drama on Prometheus prove him to have acquired early a mastery of the technique of verse; but he was deficient in constructive and dramatic power, and above all he lacked the strenuous, persistent application without which the greater achievements of poetry are impossible."

THE IRISH LITERARY REVIVAL.

CERTAIN plays, representative of the Celtic revival in literature, have recently been produced in New York. This leads an anonymous writer in *Harper's Weekly* (June 6) to say some-thing in definition of the neo-Celtic movement, of which "we have as yet no clear idea in this country," altho in England it has "for some time been recognized as one of the strongest and most vital forces in the literature of our common language." We quote:

"The work of the neo-Celtic school has certain elements of the highest value, which we have almost lost the habit of associating with literature: enthusiasm for pure beauty, a sense of the invisible, the spiritual significance of life, and a keen feeling for the life revealed through nature, as an intimation of divinity. It would be almost ludicrous to speak of these qualities in connection with anything which is at present being written in this country; and we are at least as far from the high excellence of style which, more even than its spiritual content, has drawn attention to the work of the neo-Celtic school. Both for purity of form and fineness of substance the work of these Irish writers stands alone in English literature to-day."

The poets of this school, the writer claims, excel in the quality of subtle verbal music, beside which "most of the modern verse produced in England and America seems crude and rhetorical, lacking the genuine poetic transmutation." He continues:

"Again, the nature-sense of the neo-Celtic school is pure and penetrating. We know how the nature-sense rose and fell in English poetry, beginning with the sweet freshness of Chaucer, the close and profound observation of Shakespeare, and gradually crystallizing in the mere formalism of the Augustans, whose nature was painted at second-hand, and largely from imported models. A genuine nature-sense was restored by Burns, and developed by Wordsworth. Tennyson is full of the love of wild things, full of minute and curious observation. Along this line also, the young Irish writers have attained great truth and depth, their feeling of nature being quickened by the loveliness and pensive sadness of their native land, where there is a delicacy of life in growing things, and a poetic quality of atmosphere not quite like anything else in the world.

"Even more characteristic is the sense of the spiritual in life, the intuition of man as an immortal, which everywhere inspires the work of these Irish writers. The poems of G. W. Russell are full of a fervor that is apostolic, an aspiration recalling Saint Francis or the 'Imitation,' and yet worlds away from the conventional religious poetry, let us say of the type of Wordsworth's 'Ecclesiastical Sonnets.'"

Altho the myths of Greece and Rome have been worn threadbare as literary material, and Wagner has exploited the old Norse Sagas, there remains in Gaelic legendry, it is claimed, material no less rich, which is gradually being woven into the woof of modern writing by the neo-Celtic school. "Poems like the 'Wanderings of Ossian' are but songs before sunrise of this Gaelic renascence, ores from a rich and nearly untouched mine."

NOTES.

REVIEWING a new "Life and Letters of Edgar Allan Poe," by Prof. James A. Harrison of the University of Virginia, Miss Jeannette L. Gilder writes (in *The Critic*, June): "Edgar Allan Poe is the most interesting and picturesque figure in American letters; Hawthorne comes next; Whitman follows. These three great writers struck out on original lines and made their own audiences. Of the three, Poe is decidedly the most picturesque, because of his weaknesses and misfortunes."

A WRITER in *The Pilgrim* (June) expresses surprise that Emerson should have aroused the intellectual enthusiasm that he has among his contemporaries, considering the aloofness of his attitude toward the stirring practical questions of his day. "He touched the great question of human slavery but vaguely, and expressed for the devoted men like Garrison and Phillips, who had consecrated their lives to its destruction, only the amused toleration with which a well-paid professor of Greek to-day might look out upon the war against monopoly, wage slavery, or child labor."

A WRITER has recently called attention to the number of names well known in current literature to be found on the list of the Princeton faculty. He mentions, among others, Prof. Walter A. Wyckoff, President Woodrow Wilson, Rev. Henry Van Dyke, Profs. George McLean Harper, Winthrop More Daniels, John Huston Finley (now president of the College of the City of New York, and the youngest college president in America), Howard Crosby Butler, and Mr. Laurence Hutton. He also notes the fact that "most of the members of the Princeton faculty who write literature were students under Dr. McCosh."

SHERIFF GUTHRIE, K.C., contributes to the *Scots Law Times* some reminiscences of Robert Louis Stevenson as a lawyer, and also of his early college days. The sheriff writes: "None of us who were his companions at college, in and out of the Speculative Society, prognosticated Stevenson's great future. Shame on us! Yet, in mitigation, I may urge, first, our knowledge of his delicate health; second, our ignorance of his capacity for hard work; and, third, the mask of flightiness and flippancy, in talk and conduct, which Stevenson loved to assume. 'To shirk, not to strive,' was his own description of man's chief end at college.'"

A CHICAGO school principal named Watt has been mercilessly exposing the intellectual and literary deficiencies of William Shakespeare. Here is a part of his indictment: "His [Shakespeare's] wit is of a slim order. He is cheap punster, and I hate punsters. He makes his jokes of a shady character. His language is behind the times. Students are misled and injured by the bad grammar, bad spelling, and bad morals set forth in his books. His plays are full of what we now recognize as errors of speech." Moreover, Mr. Watt would incite the Dutch, the Irish, the French, and the Scotch against the use in the public schools of the works of this "much overrated" playwright, who, he tells us, has gratuitously insulted these races.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF A CURED BLIND MAN.

THE gift of sight to a man born blind is rare enough to be of interest to all, and the first acts and impressions of one who has thus newly gained the use of his eyes have always been studied with special eagerness by physiologists and psychologists. Of a recent case in Scotland, the operating surgeon, Dr. A. M. Ramsay, has contributed a very full account to *The Lancet* (London), which is abstracted as follows in *The Scientific American* (June 6):

"The patient, aged thirty years, blind from birth, was brought to the Glasgow Ophthalmic Institution on February 24, 1903. He had been allowed to run about as he pleased, no attempt to educate him having ever been made. He became, however, so familiar with the country district (a few miles from Glasgow) in which he resided that he could go about without the slightest fear; and his hearing was so acute that he knew at once if there was anything unusual on a road along which he was walking, and thus he never had any difficulty in keeping himself out of danger. As he passed along a road he could tell a wall from a hedge by the sound of the air coming through the leaves and branches of the latter. He could easily go on an errand to any house in his native village, for the resonance of his footfall—quite different in sound when he was passing a building from what it was when he was opposite an open space—enabled him, perfectly familiar as he was with his surroundings, to count the houses as he passed, and thus to turn corners and finally to stop at the one which he wanted. . . . . .

"The patient was quite unable to distinguish objects, altho he could tell day from night and could easily perceive a light and locate it accurately; he seemed to have had no perception of bright colors. . . . . .

"For about ten days after the operation on the left eye the patient appeared to be quite dazed and could not realize that he was seeing. The first thing he actually perceived was the face of the house surgeon. He said that at first he did not know what it was that he saw, but that when Dr. Stewart asked him to look down, the sense of hearing guided his eye straight to the point whence the sound came, and then, recalling what he knew from having felt his own face, he realized that this must be a mouth, and that he must be looking at a face. Once he properly understood what vision meant he made very rapid progress, and his extraordinarily retentive memory enabled him to take full advantage of everything that he was told. He was quite ignorant of color, but learned to distinguish hues very quickly. . . . Unlike Locke's blind man, who imagined that 'scarlet was like the sound of a trumpet,' he does not seem to connect any distinct ideas with particular colors, except that he said that red gave him a feeling of pleasure and that the first time he saw yellow he became so sick that he thought he would vomit. The latter feeling, however, has never recurred.

"He rapidly learned the letters of the alphabet and figures, and he will soon be able to read and to reckon. From the very first he saw everything in its actual position, showing that the retinal inversion of a picture is interpreted psychically without any education.

"He could count accurately after he had looked at objects one by one, and seemed to derive much help in his calculations by pointing with his finger. Here again he seemed to translate touch into vision and to arrive at a perception of the whole through the perception of the individual parts. He can not take things in at a glance. He does not see the passers-by on the opposite side of the street quickly. He looks most intently and moves his head backward and forward and from side to side, as if trying to get a view of them all round before he can make up his mind what he is seeing; in a room, however, he can distinguish things much more quickly. With any complex outline, however, or group of outlines, he still has considerable difficulty, tho pictures are no longer to him, as they were at first, mere masses of confused color.

"He was able to estimate size and distance more readily than might have been anticipated, altho he said that he felt that if he were out of doors by himself he would be 'wandered.' From the time he got out of bed after the operation he could guide himself with ease through a doorway and walk about on the level, but he had considerable difficulty in ascending a stair, because the steps seemed so high that to begin with he raised his foot much farther than was necessary and without meaning to do so went up two steps at a time. . . . Before the operation he could guide himself fearlessly through a ward without coming in contact with the beds or any other obstacle that might be in the way; but since he has been able to see he says that he has lost all that feeling of confidence, and when his eyes are shut he is afraid to move and is impelled to open them to ascertain where he is going—so much so that he does not know what he would do if he again became blind.

"When he is requested to look in any particular direction, he is unable to cause the ocular muscles to do what he wishes, and the balls oscillate and one or the other turns inward. . . . . .

"The functional activity of the optic nerve since the cataracts were removed is very remarkable and is in striking contrast to the purposeless muscular movements. Disuse has crippled the function of the latter, but seems to have had but little effect on the activity of the former."

DOES WEIGHT DEPEND ON TEMPERATURE?

THE daily press tells us of a series of experiments carried on in Madison, Wis., by Professor Babcock, of the State University there, which, if the report be true, will revolutionize our ideas of gravitation. He is said to have proved, among other things, that the weight of a body increases as its temperature falls. Professor Babcock is a chemist of repute, but it should be added that he makes no authoritative statement of his results or inferences, so that we must rely for our information solely on the statements made by the newspaper correspondents. Few scientific men will consider, therefore, that the matter is in such form as to warrant much serious comment. However, altho Professor Babcock has not yet spoken officially, he is, we are assured, responsible for the following interview, which appears in *The Sun*, (New York, May 17):

"'My discovery will not change the practical work of chemistry, tho it affects it, and my conclusions and data depend upon certain differences in weight between ice and water when the ice is melted.'

"In explanation of the reason why Dr. Babcock engaged in the experiments which led to his scientific discovery, he said: 'In chemistry and physics there are a great many discrepancies in the constants, places where the theory does not explain the fact; and this led me to a series of experiments that indicated that bodies change weight when their molecular structure changed.

"'In order to demonstrate this to my satisfaction, I carried on these experiments for a period covering over twenty-five years. For a long time the results were most unsatisfactory, but three or four years ago I commenced working with ice and water and then found that my theory was well founded. I believe that the elements all have a common origin, and the difference in atomic weights is due to the difference in the amount and kind of energy they possess.

"'The lighter elements are endowed with the most energy. Hydrogen, for instance, has the greatest amount of energy, and is the lightest element. I believe further that the ether represents one extreme; that is to say, is matter endowed with practically an infinite energy and has no weight; at least it is so light that we do not know how to weigh it.'"

Professor Comstock, director of Washburn Observatory, is reported to have said:

"By means of experiments of greater accuracy than has been possible to obtain hitherto, Professor Babcock has shown that half a ton of ice weighs more than the water obtained from melting this quantity of ice.

"This is a fact of first-rate importance in our ideas of physics and chemistry. In endeavoring to estimate its exact bearing upon chemical theory, Professor Babcock has advanced the view that what he has shown to be true for water in solid and liquid

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states is generally true for other substances, and has built upon this generalization some far-reaching theories."

Another of Professor Babcock's colleagues, Prof. H. L. Russell, is reported to have expressed confidence that there could be no doubt as to the correctness of the experiments so far concluded. He said:

"I believe his discovery to be fully as important as the Newtonian law of gravitation and even broader than the law of the conservation of energy. The exactitude and accuracy of his experiments so far can not be questioned. When the data of Dr. Babcock's discovery are given to the world, as they will be during the summer, they will command the attention of scientists and chemists."

ART AND INSTANTANEOUS PHOTOGRAPHY.

THE average artist has no love for the ordinary photograph, and as for the instantaneous print, it makes him metaphorically foam at the mouth. And yet it seems probable that while instantaneous pictures will never replace the idealizations of the artist, they are well worth his study. His pictures must be so put together that they will produce a certain degree of illusion in the mind of the spectator, and while, of course, this illusion may simply be the result of long practise on the artist's part, it may also be heightened by scientific observation and analysis. And in the instantaneous picture we may observe natural facts that are hidden from the unaided eye. These points are well brought out in a recent lecture on "The Photography of Movement and its Relations with Art," delivered before the French Association for the Advancement of Science by M. Etienne Wallon, and reviewed in *Cosmos* (May 16) by M. E. Hérichard. Says this writer:

"The instantaneous photograph, by fixing a transient attitude that the eye can not seize, constitutes for the scientist a document of the highest importance; but it is in general a picture absolutely devoid of attractiveness, except in the case of quiet attitudes. For these, the character of instantaneousness is minimized; while in the contrary case we have before our eyes the 'odious instantaneous picture,' suspending movement—making immobility by combining movement with what we may term 'contra-movement.' It then certainly merits the scorn that the artist feels for photography. . . . . .

"In the beginning, the pictures obtained in this way caused surprise, as they appeared to be out of harmony with what the work of the artists had taught us, especially regarding the attitudes of the horse in motion. The ideas once accepted were not based on observation. When a running horse passes, we see, not a definite image, but an *ensemble*. . . . The images of motion that satisfy our visual instincts are furnished by memory, as the painter has fixed them on his canvas. . . . At the present day the exact attitudes are more generally adopted. . . . A curious fact is that tradition was not uniform among the artists of antiquity; for instance, Phidias, in the frieze of the Parthenon, has represented horses whose attitudes are perfectly in accord with the result furnished by the scientific observation of movement. In like manner, certain figures on Trajan's column and some of the runners ornamenting an antique vase are, according to Dr. Marcey, exactly represented. . . . . .

"So far as human movements are concerned, the discordance between the representations of art and scientific observation is less. It exists only in the adaptation of the subject to his surroundings. Dr. Paul Richer remarks that artists do not represent men walking simply and naturally; they show them to us walking with some determined purpose. The movements of their sowers or runners may often seem to us improbable; but the artist answers that these movements have been adapted to a special act. . . . All phases of motion are not good to take for models; those that are too transitory must be avoided.

"The partizans of photography—of rigorous representation—would be very wrong to deny to painters the right of interpreting and idealizing nature; and the latter, on the other hand, ought not to deform movement to the point of formally contradicting the truth; the wonderful means of instruction furnished them by chronophotography must not be disdained. The artist must fix on his canvas the unconscious synthesis made by our eyes of the motions that they perceive. . . . Judiciously employed, instantaneous photography is far from being the menace to art that some people believe. . . . . .

"The photograph can in many cases give the illusion of movement . . . if the position chosen is precisely that selected by artists with so much care. M. Wallon concludes that the apparent conflict between the arts of design and photography will soon be at an end."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

DISEASE IN METALS.

CHANGES in hardness, strength, or elasticity in certain metals may be due to conditions analogous to disease in organic tissues, according to some German metallurgists. According to *The American Inventor*, the theory of the disease of metals has been so far accepted in Germany that the imperial navy-yard at Wilhelmshafen sends metals regularly to the 'autopsy room and dissecting tables' of Professor Heyn, one of the leaders in the new investigation. That paper goes on to say:

"'Who knows,' asked Dr. Bechhold in summing up his studies, 'if metallurgy will not soon create a new and vastly important branch for itself—the branch of producing inoculating material for metals, which shall change their temper and form swiftly instead of waiting for the slow processes of forging and tempering that obtain to-day?'

"Professor Heyn has been studying the changes in iron under all grades of temperature, and he holds that the metal passes through various stages of disease that produce structural changes just as cells change in form, size, and position in the forms commonly called organic. He heated copper in order to find why that metal suffers from overheating, and his conclusion is that it becomes poisoned with copper protoxid, which so sickens it that its structure changes and partially breaks down.

"The metallurgists have joined the chemists in erasing the line which divides all substances into organic and inorganic—just as the line between animal and plant life has been expunged. The German metallurgists have come to speak as a matter of course of the life that unfolds itself in steel under various temperatures that are applied to it in working it.

"Poison this steel with hydrogen or hydrogenous matter and you sicken it so decidedly that it gets into a condition where it is as brittle as if it had been ruined in tempering.

"Pure glycerin can not be frozen by ordinary means, even if they produce a temperature as low as 20° below zero, until a bit of glycerin that has already been frozen is introduced. But as soon as this crystal of frozen glycerin is in, the rest of the glycerin begins to freeze. This process is nothing more or less than inoculating an inorganic substance with crystals in order to breed in it the condition of crystallization.

"Professor Bredig found the point of infection in the crumbling tin roof of the Council House at Rothenburg, and that the disease, now known as tin pest, had spread to a near-by roof. If some of the gray powder of tin that has happened to disintegrate should attach itself to the sound tin, the disease then communicates itself rapidly to all parts of the metal."

A Crab's Queer Weapons.—A curious habit of a crab of the Maldive Archipelago is noted by a recent writer, M. Borradaile, whose book on this region is reviewed in the *Revue Scientifique* (April 18). This creature uses live sea-anemones as weapons, or perhaps as traps to secure its food—the exact purpose is as yet obscure. Says the writer, describing this interesting crustacean:

"It is a small crab of the genus *Melia*—a new species, having been described in 1900 by M. Borradaile under the name of *Melia tessellata*. This crab lives among the branches of coral, and, as Richter noted in 1880, it is never seen without a small sea-anemone in each claw. Invariably, when met, it is provided

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with its two anemones, one in the right claw, one in the left, and it moves about in this way, with its double burden. Why? We do not know. We do know, however, that the crab holds the anemone voluntarily; it is held in the claw, not fixed on it. And when it is taken away, the crab seizes it again if it can; otherwise it goes and finds another. It appears to be satisfied only when its two claws are thus occupied, altho occasionally a *Melia* is met with empty claws. What is the reason for this curious habit of the species? Does the crab use the anemones as a means of defense? May not the stinging cells of the anemones protect it against some enemy? Or does it use them as devices for fishing, causing them to grasp victims that come in contact with their tentacles? We do not know. It is certain, however, that the crab's claws are weak and frail; they could hardly serve unassisted as means of defense. And when attacked he defends himself by stretching out the anemones in the adversary's direction. Here is an ancient habit whose origin and exact object are not apparent. It is worth noting; we know few cases of animals that use tools, especially living tools."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HOW WAS PETROLEUM FORMED?

UNTIL recently, it was almost universally believed that petroleum was, like coal, derived from fossil vegetation or possibly from animals or fishes of some long past age. Now it is asserted by many scientific men that it may not be of organic origin, but may be due to subterranean chemical action. Some recent chemical experiments appear to lend support to this new theory. Says *Cosmos* (May 23):

"On May 26, 1902, Messrs. Sabatier and Senderens reported to the Academy of Sciences a series of investigations the results of which showed that, starting with acetylene and hydrogen, we may, by the aid of finely divided metals—nickel and its related metals—obtain liquid similar to petroleum.

"These syntheses have led the authors to give a very simple explanation of the formation of natural petroleum. It is only necessary to admit that in the depths of the earth are found, diversely distributed, alkaline or alkaline-earthy metals, as well as the carbids of these metals. Water, coming in contact with the former, sets free hydrogen; with the latter, acetylene. The two gases, in variable proportions, meet nickel, cobalt, and iron—metals widely diffused in nature—and give rise to reactions that furnish the various known kinds of petroleum. This explanation is in harmony with the theories of Berthelot and Mendeluff.

"The theory that asserts the organic origin of petroleum is opposed also by M. E. Coste. It does not, he believes, rest on a single well-established geologic fact, nor on the observation of present phenomena. His arguments are thus summed up in *Le Génie Civil:*

"The distillation of organic matter may have produced deposits such as those of coal and the bituminous schists, since these deposits were contemporaneous with an intense degree of plant-life; but it is hard to explain why deposits of petroleum and of natural gas, if they have the same origin, are not abundant in the rocks of the same epoch and are found oftenest, on the contrary, in strata earlier than the carboniferous epoch, when vegetable life was less flourishing. On the other hand, as life has been continuous on the earth since the carboniferous period, we should find petroleum in all the later strata, and we even ought to be able to observe its formation at the present time. Now this is not the case. To-day, in all cases where decomposition of organic matter takes place, it is so complete and so swift that it is ended before its burial in the earth and the mineral part alone remains—ashes, shells, bones. It must have always been so; we find in certain strata, it is true, shells containing petroleum, but this is in quantity much more considerable than that which corresponds to the living organic matter that they once contained, and in this case the surrounding rock is also strongly impregnated. Rocks and shells have been impregnated at the same time and later than the deposit.

"The formation of coal is the only process that can be followed by organic matter; it has taken place at all times, even before the Carboniferous Age, as is proved by the small deposits of carbonized matter found in the Devonian and Silurian strata; and it may also be observed at the present day in lignite and peat.

"It is not easy to maintain that petroleum comes from the destructive distillation of coal, altho the two are sometimes found in the same place; such distillation would produce deposits of coke or ashes, which have never been observed.

"To sum up, the volcanic origin of the petroleums is demonstrated by the impossibility of the conclusions to which we are led by asserting their organic origin."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HOW THE EUCALYPTUS STORES UP ENERGY.

ALL trees and plants are storers of the sun's energy, but all do not possess this property in an equal degree. The eucalyptus appears to have it in greater measure than other trees, as was first noted in 1882 by D. E. Hutchins, of Cape Colony, and Sir A. Brandis. Mr. Hutchins has been again directing attention in *Nature* to this feature of the tree, which he believes will make it more valuable as a fuel than coal. Says *The Scientific American Supplement*, in an abstract of his article:

"According to Mr. Hutchins, a eucalypt plantation in tropical mountains, such as in South Africa, under favorable circumstances, stores up about one per cent. of the solar energy received on the unit of area, and it is considered much cheaper in some parts of Cape Colony to plow up the land and plant a forest of quick-growing trees than to import coal.

"In 1882 Mr. Hutchins and Sir A. Brandis, as result of their experiments, discovered that eucalypts planted on tropical mountains produce fuel at the rate of 20 tons—dry weight at 60 pounds per cubic foot—per acre per year in perpetuity. The eucalypt plantation reproduces itself when cut without further expense, and its dry timber, heavier than coal, has an equal or a higher thermal power, bulk for bulk, than coal. This result was obtained as a measurement of the maximum yield of Eucalyptus globulus on the Nilgiris, Southern India. If a chance tree on a chance mountain in a chance soil can produce the equivalent of 20 tons of coal per acre per year, it seems not unreasonable to suppose, Mr. Hutchins suggests, that by selection double this, or 40 tons, can be produced. A powerful sun, a heavy rainfall, and a very rapid forced growth are the essentials of such a production of wood fuel. A glance over the rainfall map of the world shows these conditions are fulfilled over about 8,000,000,000 acres of its surface, which is between one-fourth and one-fifth of the total land surface of 35,200,000,000 acres. One-half of this area under forest might thus yield the equivalent of 160,000,000,000 tons of coal yearly, which is more than 288 times the world's present consumption of coal, assuming that coal and eucalypt timber are of approximately equal heating power. On the basis of the actual forest yield of the present day, we have half of this, or the equivalent of 80,500,000,000 tons. In Germany, one-fourth of the total area is under forest, and taking the Germany standard of one-fourth forest, on the basis of the present maximum yield we should obtain 40,250,000,000 tons; while if the maximum forest yield be converted to an average forest yield there would still remain a yearly product of 20,175,000,000 tons, which is rather more than thirty times the world's present consumption of coal. Thus it is seen that the yield of firewood from the world's tropical and extra-tropical forests, wherever they are fully stocked and scientifically worked, will yield the equivalent of from 30 to 122 times the present consumption of coal, or even up to 243 times the present consumption, if by cultivation the present timber yield be doubled, as it might be without difficulty."

Another Waste Product Utilized.—As industrial evolution goes on, we have fewer and fewer "waste products." One by one these are discovered to have value, and sometimes they turn out to be more valuable than the primary product. A very important advance along this line is in the utilization of the waste gases of the blast-furnace, which is described by a writer in *The*

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Electrical Review as probably the most promising field for economizing in power-production. Says this paper:

"The enormous amount of waste from the blast-furnaces indicates a field for exploitation that is revolutionizing. It is claimed by all who have studied the question closely that the blast-furnaces may in the near future be great gas-producers, while the production of pig-iron will be only of secondary importance. In other words, the gas which was formerly wasted is now considered, when collected and burnt in the gas-engine, of more value than the pig-iron product. The different methods employed in the past for using this gas by burning it to make steam were always inadequate, and the amount recovered in this way did not figure conspicuously.

"Our production of pig-iron has steadily increased in the past year, and a number of new large blast-furnaces has been erected. Each one of these groups may become the center of electrical manufacturing industries which will be of prime importance. . . .

"In Europe the utilization of the waste blast-furnace gas has been more active than in this country, and according to a recent report there were upward of 175,000 horse-power of blast-furnace engines in successful operation in continental Europe. Germany has led all other nations in this respect."

FLOATING ISLANDS IN LOUISIANA.

A RECENTLY formed crevasse on the Mississippi just above New Orleans has been pouring water into the great Des Allemands Swamp, which, with its network of lakes and waterways, extends for more than one hundred and fifty miles toward the Gulf. The result, according to a recent letter to the New York *Sun*, has been to multiply the so-called "floating islands" for which the swamp has long been noted, until they constitute a menace to the inhabitants and to the railroads. Says *The Sun* correspondent:

"Most of the swamp is what the Creole swampers call *prairies tremblantes* (trembling prairies). It is land, but floating land, built up over the water by the accumulation of centuries, of logs, branches, leaves, and vegetable mold. It is light enough to float but strong enough to support men and even cattle. It trembles when walked on.

"The earth is held together by the intertwining branches of the plants or trees, for frequently very large trees grow on these trembling prairies. Occasionally some of the land is torn away and becomes an island. Such islands are known as *flottants* or floaters, by the Creoles, and are among the most picturesque sights of these Louisiana lakes, sailing upon them, borne hither and thither by the winds or currents.

"In old days, there were dozens of these floating islands, some of them acres in extent. This year the rush of the Mississippi through the Hymelia crevasse has torn up the trembling prairies, and created floating islands by hundreds.

"They are to be found in all the many lakes and bayous of that region, and are most confusing to visitors and even natives. The landscape changes, not every day, but every hour, and the land and forest shifts from one side of the river, bayou, or lake to the other in a night.

"The natural tendency of the islands is to drift toward the Gulf, and when the Hymelia crevasse begins to empty its full force into the Gulf of Mexico, ship captains navigating that body of water are likely to be confused by discovering new lands and tropical islands where the charts show none.

"For the present, however, the *flottants* are proving most troublesome to the railroads by threatening their bridges. So many islands have floated down Bayou Des Allemands as to endanger the big bridge of the Southern Pacific over that stream.

"The railroad company has a large force of men near the bridge. They have driven piles and built up a network above it to catch the floating islands, which are blown up, cut up, or otherwise destroyed, so as to prevent them from floating against the bridge and wrecking it.

"The soil is found to be from six to eight feet deep, with the intricate entanglements of vines, grasses, and trees, and the islands are very picturesque. They would be handsome ornaments in a pleasure lake, and they are attractive even in the Louisiana swamps; but the railroads and the settlers there say that they are a nuisance, as they frequently run aground in the network of smaller bayous, act as a dam in the stream, and help to overflow the neighboring lands, even when they do not carry away the railroad bridges."

Why is Morning Air Fresh and Sweet?—Every one recognizes the sweetness and freshness of the early morning air, and knows that these attractive properties disappear as the day advances; but, so far as analysis goes, the composition of early morning air is not different from that of air at any other time. Why is this? Says a writer in *The Lancet* (April 25):

"It is well to remember that during the passing of night to day and of day to night several physical changes take place. There is a fall in temperature at sunset and a rise again at dawn, and consequently moisture is alternately being thrown out and taken up again, and it is well known that change of state is accompanied by electrical phenomena and certain chemical manifestations also. The formation of dew has probably therefore far more profound effects than merely the moistening of objects with water. Dew is vitalizing not entirely because it is water but because it possesses an invigorating action due partly, at any rate, to the fact that it is saturated with oxygen, and it has been stated that during its formation peroxid of hydrogen and some ozone are developed. It is not improbable that the peculiarly attractive and refreshing quality which marks the early morning air has its origin in this way. . . . The difficulty of inducing grass to flourish under a tree in full leaf is well known and is generally explained by saying that the tree absorbs the nourishing constituents of the soil or that it keeps the sunlight away from the grass and protects it from rain. It is doubtful whether any of these explanations is true, the real reason most probably being that the vitalizing dew can not form upon the grass under a tree, whereas as a rule both rain and light can reach it."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

THE manufacture of quartz glass is rapidly developing in Germany, writes Richard Guenther, United States consul-general at Frankfort. The product consists essentially of melted quartz, which is made into tubes and other articles. It is perfectly translucent. The initial experiments in the manufacture of the new glass were made in England, but a firm at Hanau, a few miles from Frankfort, was the first to place quartz-glass apparatus upon the market. "Everybody who knows the properties of quartz glass admits that it will soon replace ordinary glass for many uses. It is only a comparatively short time since German manufacturers revolutionized the manufacture of optical glasses and obtained a monopoly of this important industry, and there is reason to believe that this will be repeated with quartz glass."

A RECENT newspaper despatch quoted in *The Electrical Age* states that Sherman Hobson, a railroad man of Pueblo, Colo., has just perfected an appliance which, if all proves true that is claimed for it by its inventor, will greatly reduce railroad collisions and save thousands of lives annually. "The new appliance is a sort of looking-glass to be hung on each side of an engine to enable the engineer and fireman to see the roadbed for six miles, both in front and in the rear. The chief value of the invention is that it does not make any difference if the road is curved or straight. The instrument works on the principle of a mirage, and it has been named by its inventor the 'miragescope.' It has been tested from Denver to Grand Junction on the Denver and Rio Grande and the Colorado Midland, and also passed favorable tests on the Colorado Southern and Missouri Pacific."

ON a recent proposition to introduce vertical penmanship into the English schools, *Nature* (London) says: "There can be no doubt that sloped writing necessitates a strained and asymmetrical posture, and has contributed to the production of countless cases of lateral curvature of the spine and of eye-strain, while upright writing is compatible with a natural and healthy posture. This fact alone constitutes a sufficient and, indeed, urgent, reason for the teaching in all schools of upright in place of the old-fashioned sloped writing. But it seems that some of the advocates of upright writing claim as one of its principal advantages the fact that it can be easily executed with the left hand. They propose to form an association to promote the teaching of upright writing with both hands, believing that the child taught to write equally well with both hands will easily acquire left-handed skill in all other manipulations. This belief is probably well founded, but there are at present no sufficient grounds for the assumption that a child's mental development will be aided by the training of his left equally with his right hand. The balance of probability seems to be against it. It is further proposed to teach children to write different matter simultaneously with the two hands, a feat which appears to have been accomplished in one or two instances. If this proposal should be carried into practise the results should be of great interest to psychologists, but the process may be prejudicial to the development of strong and sane personalities by the subjects of the experiment."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

STARVATION OF THE COUNTRY CHURCH.

IN the country, says Mr. G. T. Nesmith, the redemptive power of the church is nothing whatever because her message is forgotten and marred, the result being that "the spiritual condition of the community falls correspondingly lower." "With no broad, rich social life, no general intellectual activity, no religious inspiration, no initiative to political self-consciousness and community action, life in the rural districts tends toward idleness, vulgarity, animality, and drunkenness." Such, we are told, is the problem of the rural community, "with its highest factor for good an object for apology and pity." We quote further from Mr. Nesmith's article, which appears in *The American Journal of Sociology* (Chicago):

"So we witness in our rural communities a vast destitution of religion. We hear annually long reports of dead and dying churches; we behold churches barely alive, with no settled pastors; we see churches having settled pastors giving their entire strength in a mere fight for existence, and having no money or energy left for community interests and philanthropy. Thus the conception of the church in the rural districts has come to be something to be kept in existence rather than something to be kept on the increase; something to be ministered unto rather than something to minister; something to be built up out of the community rather than something to build up the community out of it; 'a humble pensioner upon the people, hat in hand, begging for support, rather than a divine institution which is to bestow upon men the gift of God in Jesus Christ.'"

The writer quotes Josiah Strong as having said that during the thirty years ending in 1893 thousands of churches died from exhaustion in the rural districts of the United States. And according to an investigator of the New England region: "It is a pathetic sight to see a church, firm in its aims and ideals, yet gradually decaying because its best blood is going to the cities; but it is more pathetic to see churches that have locked their doors, not because there was no one to attend, but because no one would attend." Mr. Nesmith reflects thus upon these things:

"It would seem that a village, with its many church-spires pointing to the sky, would be the center of growing civic and religious life. On the contrary, the ethical and religious condition of the rural community seems to be very low. Idleness, vulgarity, and drunkenness seem to be on the increase, while the churches appear to be gradually dying for lack of community interest.

"The causes leading to this sad condition are many. Migration has deprived the church of its best element. Immigration has brought into the farming districts a class of people not friendly to the church of Puritan ideals. Denominationalism has subdivided the small community into organizations too weak to do anything but barely to live; while its fierce strife and contentions have created a feeling of disgust and religious indifference. Irregular and inefficient ministers, narrow in theology and weak in personality, have added to the growing indifference. A lack of means to carry on the work has put the church in a begging attitude, depriving it of its spiritual aggressiveness. The preaching of dogma and the emphasis of creed above character have deprived the church of the sympathy of the people. An undue worship of cherished ecclesiastical traditions compels the use of a polity inefficient and untimely. An illogical application of successful urban methods to rural problems wastes energy and delays the solution of the problem. A conception of religion which emphasizes its defensive agility instead of its aggressive qualities deprives the church of its inspiration and leadership. An undue exaltation of the clerical office and of the functions of public worship draws away the sense of divine agency and appointment from other offices and functions, and tends to divorce religion from the people, who feel that the clergy is exalted instead of the church, and that the community is sacrificed for the church instead of the church for the community."

We are also assured by the writer of this article that a false conception of the world-order as "permanently and necessarily corrupt" deprives the church of a large part of its proper influence. "This view causes the church to neglect the general interests of society and makes religion something external, to be gotten by special experience, a system of dogmas to be accepted, and of forms to be regarded, instead of consecrated devotion to the best interests of the community. . . . Finally, the cause of low ebb of church influence in the rural districts is the failure to study the problem scientifically and to adapt its program of reform along sociological lines instead of the traditional polity of the apostolic fathers."

ANGLICAN RIDICULE OF THE NON-CONFORMIST CONSCIENCE.

PASSIVE resistance on the part of non-conformists to the payment of the school tax levied under the new English Education Act has assumed the proportions of a "tremendous" movement, according to the London *News*. "Since the abolition of church rates," remarks the great Liberal organ, "there has been no principle more firmly established in England than that the upholders of one creed should not be called upon to pay for teaching another." It adds:

"This 'passive resistance' movement has received no support from the Opposition press, or from the opposition leaders. It has been a people's movement. There was probably no politician who was not taken by surprise when last week the first beacon-fires glowed from Oxford and the Isle of Wight! The wiseacres had put the thing out of sight and memory. The materialists, both Liberals and Tories, had decided that this was not an age in which any man would put himself to stress or trouble over a religious conviction. If the fight had been for wealth, privilege, or power, then this might have been credible. In such contests, the only surprise is nowadays if a man does respect the law; and the surprise is even greater if the law dares to vindicate itself. But the idea that a non-conformist should ever take strong measures because he is forced to pay for having his children proselytized, and to support a school from which they are excluded as teachers, has seemed even to many Liberals an incredible and improbable thing. And yet, lo! it has happened."

The religious organ of the non-conformists in England, *The British Weekly* (London), has warmly supported this passive resistance movement. "When," it says, "we declared that it was a matter of conscience with us to refuse the payment of rates for sectarian schools, we bound ourselves to abide by the consequences, whatever they were. It was and is for us a matter of life and death." This last sentence, retorts *The Church Times* (London), the official Anglican organ, "is splendid in its humorous suggestiveness." It continues:

"It conjures up a picture of Dr. Clifford being led to the scaffold by those arch-sacerdotalists, the Prime Minister and Sir William Anson, while the whole bench of bishops gloat over the horrid deed. At the same time, the actual price of martyrdom seemed likely to be extraordinarily low. The average martyr, let us suppose, occupies a house rated at £40. The majority, perhaps—so unappreciative yet is Britain of its greatest men—occupy more humble dwellings. But let us put the ratable value at £40. On a 6d. educational rate, the half-yearly payment demanded will be ten shillings. Not all of this is to be withheld. 'It is for local leagues of citizens, acting with the National Passive Resistance Committee, to fix the sums to be refused. It will always be easy to know within a little what proportion of the rate is paid for sectarian schools.' (Is a Wesleyan school, one wonders in parenthesis, a sectarian school?) In other words, the total amount which our typical martyr will refuse to pay may be about five shillings. But even as regards this sum he must be careful. Martyrdom is very desirable, but he should not pay a penny more than is necessary in order to secure it."

The Anglican organ next quotes from the non-conformist organ the following, which it calls "delicious irony":

"The demands of conscience are satisfied when the goods of

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the ratepayers are taken out and sold. It is not necessary, and it is not wise, to allow them to be sold at a ruinous sacrifice to furniture dealers."

"This presumably means," says the Anglican organ, "that a sympathizer is to fill the rôle of purchaser." It adds:

"A vast concourse of 'free churchmen' will assemble with banners and trumpets. One of Dr. Clifford's henchmen will deliver an impassioned speech. Then a minion of the law, loathing his task, and his utterance well-nigh choked by sobs, will proceed to put up to auction the martyr's kitchen coal-scuttle. The scene will be one of huge emotion. But a friend will purchase the coal-scuttle for five shillings, amid rapturous applause, and will restore it to its tearful owner. Whereupon the procession will reform and the drama will be complete. Never before, we are convinced, has so striking and effective a martyrdom been obtainable at so very modest a price."

FASTING AND THE CAUSE OF LEPROSY.

ACCORDING to Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson, who has long been recognized as one of the first experts on leprosy, the institution of fasting, or rather the use of fish on fast-days, is the cause of the growth of that disease in certain parts of the Orient. "Wherever Catholic missions are successful," writes Dr. Hutchinson in the London *Times*, with particular reference to India, "there is increase of leprosy." He continues:

"The facts which I have brought forward are such as to impose a duty upon the authorities of the Roman Catholic Church to reconsider their fast-day ordinances. The facts seem to show conclusively that in all districts where leprosy occurs—in other words, in all places where there is risk of obtaining unsound fish—the use of fish on fast-days ought to be forbidden. I have long ago and many times expressed the opinion that neither contagion nor the crusades, but Christianity, was responsible for the prevalence of leprosy in Europe during the Middle Ages. It now appears that what occurred then is being repeated now in India, and, it is to be feared, in many other parts of the world. . . . A convert from Hinduism to Roman Christianity incurs at once an enormously increased risk of becoming a leper. In most of the Indian asylums 'native Christians' abound, and by far the larger proportion are Catholics. Conversion to any of the Protestant sects incurs some risk, because it removes the prejudice to animal food which, to some extent, is natural to the Hindu mind; but conversion to a creed which imposes the use of fish on one or two days at least of every week increases that risk immensely. My calculation is that the risk to a Catholic convert is twenty-fold that of one who remains in the Hindu faith. If I dare trust my figures—chiefly those of the last census—it may possibly in Bengal amount to ninety-fold."

Dr. Hutchinson admits that figures are deceitful and "statistics are often fallacious," but "the margin which may here be allowed for error" throws no doubt upon "the general bearing of the facts." To resume:

"Similar conclusions are suggested whether we examine the statistics of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, or the Punjab. Respecting the Chota Nagpur district of Bengal, the census compiler writes: 'The great center of Roman Catholic missionary enterprise in this province is Ranchi, where its converts exceed 54,000, or about three-fifths of the total number in the province.' The increase during the last decennium was 15 per cent. Now it is in precisely this district that leprosy also has increased (from 4.5 to 5.8 per 10,000), while in all the adjacent districts it has diminished. A fallacy which may possibly to some extent diminish the force of my estimates is that in some instances lepers who have been registered as 'Christians' may have been converted subsequent to the development of their leprosy. I have no means of knowing whether or not this has been the case to any large extent, and certainly it does not invalidate the records of the Bombay asylum at which the expression 'Salsette Christian' means a descendant of those who were converted more than three centuries ago by St. Francis Xavier and his devoted colleagues. Most willingly do I bear my testimony to the temporal advantages which have accrued to these by their conversion; and it is because fish fast-days are no essential nor even important part of Christian ritual that I feel entitled to urge that they ought to be done away with. It may not be out of place here to point out that this preponderance of the disease among Catholic converts gives the *coup de grâce* to the belief in the contagiousness of leprosy."

GOD AS A CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCH.

AT the time when the books of the Bible were written, monarchs were absolute. There were no Magna Chartas, no declarations of the rights of man, no constitutions, written or unwritten. Man instinctively, therefore, invested God with the attributes of despotism. He was the King of kings. Nowadays we tend, without being quite conscious of the fact, to make a constitutional monarch out of God. This explains some of the drifting of doctrine which characterizes our age. So, at any rate, thinks that brilliant Irish clergyman and scholar, Prof. J. P. Mahaffy, who brings the point out quite clearly in *The Hibbert Journal* (London and Oxford). "If the Deity be recognized as a constitutional monarch," he declares, "who in His wisdom has laid down the best laws for the world to obey, the notion of caprice or special legislation, or exceptions for any particular reasons, becomes more and more inconsistent with the perfection of His wisdom":

"Hence, even among the most religious people, the importance of miracles as a proof of divine power, or of special interpositions to please particular people, can not but wane and pass into the background, as being suited to a ruder age and less developed people, and not perfectly consistent with the establishment of wise laws by an omniscient power. The appeal to miracles becomes less and less frequent, and they no longer play a prominent part in the spiritual life even of those who faithfully receive the truth of the Gospel. The fact that they have disappeared gradually, and are even still asserted among the more superstitious branches of the Christian church, shows that it is not by controversy but by the drifting of opinion that the change has taken place."

Without going so far as to imply the further modification of God's system along republican lines, the Irish thinker anticipates that the tendency which he points out will remain active. Hence he sees no escape from the conclusion that the modern mind, tinctured with notions of the consent of the governed, may view "the eternal pains of hell" accordingly. We quote:

"With the lapse of centuries a new ideal came into the world—that of a constitutional monarch, far greater and wiser than the legitimate despot. Men came to understand the wisdom and humanity of a fixed code of laws, which even the sovereign would not infringe, by which he bound himself voluntarily, and of which a violation, owing to anger or caprice, would be a lowering of his own perfection. Such a monarch was quite ready not only to create subjects, but to give them rights; and the disregarding these rights would not only be harsh or even cruel, it would be positively *unjust*."

Dr. Mahaffy does not mention the devil, but he fears that the conversion of hell into a poetical expression may make us suspicious of "the inexpressible joys of heaven." We quote once more:

"The fact is, that with the faith in hell the faith in heaven was more closely bound up than was suspected; and when the faith in the one has faded, the faith in the other seems to be fading also. I do not hear, as I used to do, pious old people comforting themselves with the hope that very soon they will find again those of their family whose loss was the bitter trial of their lives. They seldom speak about it, they do not disbelieve it, but the faith of the religious world is drifting away from it, to that worst form of despair—

> "'When I shall meet him in the court of heaven
> I shall not know him; therefore, never never
> Shall I behold my pretty Arthur more.'"

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RIVAL MESSIAHS IN A PROPOSED PRAYER DUEL.

MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD, of Qadian, Punjab, India, is "the promised Messiah," according to statements made over his own signature. He has challenged Dr. Dowie, of this country, to a duel, the weapon being prayer and each side to petition the Almighty "that of us two whoever is the liar may perish first." The person who issues this challenge, according to *The Review of Religions* (Gurdaspur, India), is "the Promised Messiah" sent "for the reformation of the world exactly at the time fixed by calculations based on biblical prophecies as the time of the advent of the Messiah," and he has a following of over a hundred thousand members, "rapidly growing." The teaching of this Messiah is that Christ was a mere mortal, a good man, without divinity. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad further declares in the organ already named:

MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD.

He has challenged Dr. Dowie to a prayer duel to the death.

"Dr. Dowie should further bear in mind that this challenge does not proceed from an ordinary Mohammedan. I am the very Messiah, the promised one, for whom he is so anxiously waiting. Between Dr. Dowie's position and mine the difference is this, that Dowie fixes the appearance of the Messiah within the next twenty-five years, while I give him the glad tidings that the Messiah has already appeared. I am that Messiah, and Almighty God has shown numerous signs from earth as well as from heaven in my support. My following, which already claims a hundred thousand souls, is making a rapid progress. The proof that Dr. Dowie furnishes in support of his extravagant claims is the very height of absurdity. He claims to have healed hundreds of sick men. But why did his healing-power fail in the case of his own beloved daughter, where it should have been exercised in the highest degree?"

John Alexander Dowie, writes the Messiah, "claims to have been sent by the son of Mary in his capacity of Godhead, that as his apostle he may draw the whole world to a belief in the despicable dogma of his divinity." The Indian claimant proceeds:

"Whether the God of Mohammedans or the God of Dowie is the true God may be settled without the loss of millions of lives which Dr. Dowie's prediction would involve. That method is that, without threatening the Mohammedan public in general with destruction, he should choose me as his opponent and pray to God that of us two whoever is the liar may perish first. I look upon the son of Mary as a weak human being, altho I recognize him as a prophet of God, while Dr. Dowie takes him for the Lord of Universe. Which of us is right, is the real point at issue. If Dr. Dowie is certain of the divinity of the son of Mary, he should publish the proposed prayer with the signatures of at least one thousand men affixed to it. Upon receiving it, I should address the same prayer to Almighty God and publish it with the signatures of the same number of witnesses. If Dr. Dowie has the courage to accept this challenge, he will thereby open a way for all other Christians to the acceptance of truth. In making this proposal, I have not taken the initiative, but the jealous God has inspired me upon Dr. Dowie's presumptuous prediction that all Mohammedans shall perish."

"An important discovery regarding Jesus Christ" has been made by the followers of the challenging Messiah, as we read in the Indian publication already named. This discovery is that "Jesus did not die upon the cross," but was "taken down alive and senseless." Subsequently the son of Mary "recovered, traveled eastward, and lived up to a good old age." His tomb, it is also stated, is "situated in the Khan Yar Street at Srinagar, Cashmere." Our authority opines: "The incontrovertible testimony afforded by the tomb itself, backed as it is by the unanimous oral testimony of hundreds of thousands of men, and by the written evidence of ancient documents, becomes in our opinion too strong to be resisted by the most determined of skeptics."

TRANSFORMATION OF THE QUAKER.

QUAKERS, "the people called Friends," have been greatly changed by time, according to Edward Gardner, himself a Quaker, who writes in *The American Friend* (Philadelphia). This transformation, according to him, is one of the significant religious phenomena of the day, and it should not be overlooked by those who would understand the moral forces now at work in this republic. A great future is predicted for the transforming movement. "It will be an aggressive church, not a passive one," he says. "Its work will be constructive as well as preservative." He gives the following details of the Quaker's transformation:

"For a century or more, Friends were known by their peculiar dress. At length it was discovered that simplicity of dress did not mean uniformity, and that the cut of the coat or the shape of the bonnet did not add to the spiritual life of the wearer. The Quaker of to-day is not known by his dress; if he dresses with taste, but not with extravagance, he is, no doubt, conforming more nearly to the spirit of early Quakerism than did his predecessor of a hundred years ago. George Fox himself, it is said, bought his wife a red mantle, and William Penn's dress did not at all conform to the Quaker ideal of a later period.

"Music, painting, and literature are now taking their rightful place among Friends. Congregational singing is recognized as being a part of true worship, and in many places instrumental music is also made a part of the devotional service.

"In the Quaker home of a century ago the sweet influence of song was unknown. The Bible and the writings of early Friends were the only books; no pictures adorned the walls, and Puritan austerity was the rule of life. In the Quaker home of to-day we find music, paintings, and an abundance of books; means of recreation abound, and a daily paper has become almost a necessity."

The Quaker home of 1800 "lacked somewhat in grace," thinks the Friend we are quoting, "in kindly sympathy, and in a broad view of life." Quaker "sternness" may have "repelled some." But there is reason to think that the Quaker home of 1900 has less of these faults. We read further:

"Closer interdenominational fellowship has become very prominent within the last few years. It is very gratifying to know that the Friends have entered heartily into the spirit of it. This agreement on the essentials of Christianity and hearty cooperation in active work gives great encouragement for the future. The sharp contrast between the bitterness of the church-members of one denomination toward those of other denominations in

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the time of George Fox and the kindly spirit shown at this time, is evidence that Christianity is doing more for the world now than it did then.

"The total membership of Orthodox Friends in America at present is 93,204; in the world, 113,930. Notwithstanding there has been a slight decrease in membership during the last year, the Society seems to be on solid ground, with no serious dissensions likely to mar it."

WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN PROTESTANT CHURCHES OF EUROPE.

IT is evident that, in the various Protestant churches of Europe, the injunction for women to keep silent in the church is by no means a dead letter. Fräulein Paula Müller, in an address on the "Rights and Duties of Women in the Churches," delivered at the recent National German Social Congress, furnishes evidence of this fact. We condense as follows some of her statements:

The rights of women in the different Protestant state churches of Germany are few and far between, even fewer in the ecclesiastical than in the political field. Of the forty-eight Protestant state churches in the empire, there are only three, Hanover, Schleswig-Holstein, and Hesse-Kassel, that give to women the right to protest in the case of the election of a pastor. Even in these three churches she has no right to vote. In Bavaria and Würtemberg the law expressly denies her any right to protest. In all the other state churches, as also in the few independent churches, women have absolutely no rights in the churches except to participate in the services.

Christian women are beginning to feel the injustice of this legal status, because they are the most active in the work of the church. The only real exception to this denial of right is when a woman, as the owner of a large estate, has the right to select the pastor for the village church in which her dependants and workingmen worship. In the management of orphans' homes and other charitable institutions, it not infrequently occurs that there are women managers on the board, but nowhere in Germany have women anything like the rights they enjoy in the churches of America and Australia. In Norway and Sweden women have the right to vote in the selection of a pastor and in the selection of the church council. In the Free Church and the National Church of the Vaud Canton and in Geneva women have the franchise in the selection of a pastor. The same is true in Ireland and Scotland, and in the Presbyterian Church in England. Elsewhere in Europe their church rights amount practically to *nil*. In Germany at least there are as yet poor prospects that there will be any marked improvement in this respect in the near future.

Another speaker at the same convention, Fräulein Mellien, declared that the state has in principle already broken the rule that women shall keep silent in the church by the appointment of women as supervisors of women convicts.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A "DECLARATION OF WAR" UPON "HIGHER CRITICISM."

ONE result of the radicalism taught by Delitzsch and others in Germany, who have denied that the books of the Old Testament contain any divine revelation, has been a renewed activity on the part of the conservatives. The most pronounced champion on the conservative side is doubtless Dr. Johannes Lepsius, a recognized scholar and vigorous combatant. In his own journal, the *Reich Christi* (No. 1), he publishes what he calls a "Declaration of War" against "the Hegel-Darwinian-Wellhausen" school. He says, in substance:

We are at the beginning of a new epoch in the life of the Church. The seventy-year war between mythology and theology in the domain of the Old Testament has seemingly ended in a complete defeat of the traditional views. The critical views practically control Protestant thought everywhere and have assumed international proportions. Not one university man in Germany holds to the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch, and all make concessions to the newer views.

And yet when a person coolly and deliberately looks at the so-called "certain results" of the critical investigation of the last century and a half, what are these "results"? Nothing else than the conclusion that most of the books of the Old Testament are literary frauds; that they do not correctly teach the historical development of the religion in Israel, and, to make matters worse, intentionally and purposely misrepresent this history, especially those books that have been "revised" in harmony with the spirit of the Deuteronomist. The whole Mosaic code, in its real essence, at any rate, is held to be a later fabrication, and its claim to have been given in the wilderness is regarded as an historical falsehood. Its whole historical background, it is asserted, is a fabrication, and the Law is but the outcome of a struggle between the advocates of the local cults and the hierarchical tendencies of the Jerusalem priesthood.

There is only one other religious book that, in its origin and development, can be compared with the Old Testament, as the critics regard it, and that is the Book of Mormon. A mere glance at this parallel must convince the earnest Christian that he can have no share in the radical criticism of the times. The strongest argument against the hypothesis is to state it in its simple and naked truthfulness.

The *Deutsch-Amerikanische Zeitschrift* greets this declaration by Dr. Lepsius with enthusiasm, and declares that he will prove himself a worthy antagonist. Dr. Lepsius has begun the publication of a series of investigations in the *Reich Christi*, in which he purposes to demonstrate that the reconstruction of the religious history of Israel by the modern hypothesis is substantially based upon a begging of the question in two directions, namely: (1) That the methods and results of the investigations of the sources of the Pentateuch are unassailable; and (2) that the archeological data in reference to the historical books of the Old Testament have been sufficiently investigated and have been correctly interpreted. Both claims, which are essential to the newer criticism, are false, he holds, and a reinvestigation from the very beginning is necessary. If this is done, the radical views can not stand.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

WE made a mistake according to Friar Paul, S.A., who writes to us from Graymore, Garrison, N. Y., in naming the Rev. Spencer Jones, M.A., author of "England and the Holy See," as the editor of *The Lamp*, organ of the Society of the Atonement. He contributes to *The Lamp*, but Friar Paul is the editor.

"EVERYWHERE and by everybody," says the New York *Times*, "the Devil is regarded as a comic personage, save only by persons of austere Puritan temper, who, never having had any fun themselves, are incapable of thinking the Devil funny. Millions of good men who, when they stop to think about it, know and feel that the Devil ought to be abhorred, have really given up trying to abhor him because they realize the absolute impossibility of doing him the awful justice which his immeasurable wickedness demands. He has been painted so black that he quite transcends human powers of abhorrence. So for some centuries there has been a reaction in his favor—not, to be sure, in favor of sin and wickedness, the things he stands for, but in favor of the image in which he appears to us."

THE publication in our columns (May 30) of an article from *The Independent*, by Paul E. More, on Emerson's responsibility for Christian Science philosophy, has elicited from Mrs. Eddy a personal statement which appears in the Boston *Journal* (June 8). Mr. More spoke of Mrs. Eddy as an "ignorant woman." Apparently to refute this, Mrs. Eddy writes: "I was early the pupil of Miss Sarah J. Bodwell, the principal of Sanbornton Academy of New Hampshire, and finished my course of studies under Prof. Dyer H. Sanborn, author of Sanborn's Grammar. Among my early studies were Comstock's Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Blair's Rhetoric, Whateley's Logic, Watt's 'On the Mind and Moral Science.' At sixteen years of age I began writing for leading newspapers, and for many years wrote for the best magazines in the South and North. I have lectured in large and crowded halls in New York City, Chicago, Boston, Portland, and at Waterville College, and have been invited to lecture in London and Edinburgh. . . . I am the author of the Christian Science text-book, 'Science and Health' with Key to the Scriptures'; the demand for this book increases, and the book is already in its two hundred and seventy-fourth edition of one thousand copies each. I am rated in *The National Magazine* (1903) as standing the eighth in a list of twenty-two of the foremost living authors." She also quotes Judge S. J. Hanna, a Christian Science editor and lecturer, as follows: "Mrs. Eddy is, from every point of view, a woman of sound education and liberal culture."

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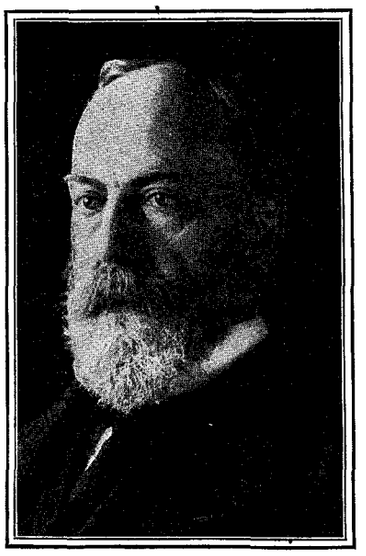
FOREIGN TOPICS.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND BRITISH OPINION.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN has asserted that were Cobden alive he would be an advocate of the preferential tariff idea. But such an event, according to the retort of Sir Charles Dilke in the House of Commons, would merely prove that, having lived to an advanced age, Cobden was suffering from softening of the brain. To this view of the case the British press, with a notable exception here and there, tends to rally. As topics of editorial comment, Ireland and the land bill, London and the education bill, the Established Church and the clergy discipline bill have, for the time being, been swept completely off the political stage. In their stead we have what are termed "Mr. Chamberlain's proposals"; but the English newspapers are not agreed as to the exact nature of these proposals. Mr. Chamberlain himself refrains from being explicit. "Somebody asked for a plan," he said in the course of one of the recent debates in the House of Commons. "If by a plan he means a detailed scheme of some new tariff or some new fiscal arrangement or reciprocity treaty, nothing of the kind can be produced at the present moment; and that is not the question I have raised. . . . I am bound to consider the possibility at any rate that the views of the nation may be in favor of some such change as is the subject of this discussion. Now in that event, when we have got the mandate—if we ever get it—then will be the time to produce the plan." At which, according to the parliamentary report, there was laughter.



SIR CHARLES DILKE.

His action in the House of Commons led to the Balfour-Chamberlain debate.

The Prime Minister has taken pains from the first to repeat that there is no lack of harmony between Mr. Chamberlain and himself. "I am certain," he said in the debate referred to, "—no, I am not certain that this scheme is practicable" (here there was an outburst of laughter) "—but I am certain that unless this scheme proves to be practicable, or unless some other scheme having the same results can be brought to fruition, and if the British empire is to remain as it is at present, a series of isolated economic units, it is vain for us to hope that this branch, at all events, of the great Anglo-Saxon race is destined to have the great and triumphant economic progress which undoubtedly lies before the United States of America." To this effect the Prime Minister expressed himself in every subsequent debate, even when almost every member of the ministry had repudiated all sympathy with Mr. Chamberlain. Whereupon the London *News*, the great Liberal daily, remarks:

"The best friends of Mr. Balfour will feel the profoundest compassion for him in the sorry figure which he cut in the House of Commons. . . . He is still nominally Prime Minister of this country. But his short reign is already, it would seem, near its eclipse. The shadow of a more powerful planet is falling across him, and Mr. Chamberlain is to add one more to his long list of betrayals. It is inconceivable that the present situation can continue long. . . . He deferred to Mr. Chamberlain in tones of whispering humbleness and apology, while that powerful electioneerer blustered and dictated for all the world as if he already wore the purple. It looks as if we were to see the tragedy of Richard II. repeated on the modern political stage. Mr. Chamberlain already speaks of a 'new mandate.' He tells us, with the air of the real king, that the Zollverein proposal has come to stay. He announces to the Opposition, with characteristic arrogance, that this is the question which they 'will have to discuss in the country.' They will be only too delighted. . . . During his visit to South Africa, Mr. Chamberlain seems to have imbibed every Protectionist fallacy. He throws at us the old consolation of a hypothetical rise in wages, ignoring the fact that Johannesburg at present is almost in a state of revolt against the high prices and low wages which have been the result of khaki in that part of the world. Really, it would have been less astonishing if a leading and respectable politician had suddenly run amok down Piccadilly."

The London *Times*, which has hailed the Chamberlain proposals from the first with enthusiasm, sees no discrepancy whatever in the respective positions of Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain. The idea "that there is a difference of opinion and conviction between Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain," it terms "the amiable theory of the Opposition," which has now been "totally demolished":

"In the next place, it is rendered perfectly clear that the particular sign for which the Opposition are hungering is not to be given them. Neither Mr. Balfour nor Mr. Chamberlain is going to produce a detailed fiscal scheme for them to tear in pieces. The Colonial Secretary showed very conclusively that nothing of the kind is so much as possible at this moment. There is an immense amount of work to be done before anything of that kind can be produced. Information has to be collected, principles have to be debated, the mind of the country has to be familiarized with the subject-matter, and the opinion of the country has to be crystallized upon the broad issues of the case. When all that is done, there will remain the work of negotiation with the colonies before anything in the nature of concrete proposals can be laid before Parliament. In the third place—and this is the most important point—it is made absolutely clear that a great question of principle is to be laid before the country without ambiguity and without reservation. . . . The question is not about the theoretical merits of free trade and protection, nor will its discussion be furthered in the smallest degree by the only process which some appear capable of applying—the vehement restatement of the formulas of an outworn controversy. On the contrary, the question is whether, in the actual conditions of the world, and in presence of economic reversal of the relative positions of this and other countries, this nation will be content to trust to the familiar incantations, or will carefully revise its arrangements in view of its actual needs and of the growing menace to its financial and political prosperity."

This brings out clearly the argument of the not very great number of papers supporting the Chamberlain idea. They insist that the question of free trade against protection is only incidentally involved, being swallowed up in the larger one of imperial unity. The London *Times*, whose support of the Chamberlain proposals is admitted to be powerful by the London *Spectator*, does not seem to anticipate insuperable difficulty in ultimately convincing the country of the practicability of such imperial conceptions. It makes no definite references to the rumor of a coming dissolution of Parliament, while intimating, nevertheless, that such a contingency enters into its calculations. *The Times* proceeds:

"It is said that we can not procure any means of dealing on equal terms with foreign Governments and trusts except by taxing foodstuffs. Mr. Chamberlain is not dismayed by this apparently conclusive deterrent. It is perfectly true, he cheerfully admits, and he is going to tell the workingmen that, if we are to hold the empire together, to keep the only neutral market left open to us, and to maintain any power of selling goods to the world at large, we must tax food. He is going to tell the workingmen with the utmost frankness just what the thing will cost

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them in their weekly bills, and, on the other hand, what they will gain by it. He considers that there will be a heavy balance in their favor, and he believes that they are quite able to understand and very likely to approve the transaction. It is said, of course, that the democracy will never stand a tax on corn. But other democracies cheerfully pay taxes upon everything they eat and drink, generally twice over, once to the state and again to the local authority. Mr. Chamberlain does not prophesy, tho he holds that the prophecies of the other side are generally falsified by the event. Perhaps we had better all abstain from prophecy. The appeal is to Cæsar, and by the verdict we shall have to abide. One thing clear is that a very large issue is about to be placed before the constituencies of this country."

It is a noteworthy fact that nearly all the leading Conservative papers seem to take their cue from Mr. Balfour in commenting upon the Chamberlain proposals. They are not certain that the scheme will succeed, but they think some scheme is wanted.

"There are strong arguments for, as there are strong arguments against, the policy of tariffs and preferences," thinks *The Morning Post* (London). "It may be that we stand at the opening of a new economic era," says *The Standard* (London), an organ of the old-fashioned school of Conservatism, which has been doubtful from the first mention of the Chamberlain idea. "Before long," it continues, "the country may find itself involved in controversies which will make some of the political discussions of the past few years seem jejune and parochial." *The Yorkshire Post* says "the nation must count the cost fairly and squarely before entering upon the new policy." *The Saturday Review* (London) says the question is a hard one for a free-trader, but an imperialist "will have to make up his mind to give up either imperialism or free trade," because "he can not retain" both. The Conservative papers, as these extracts denote, are non-committal so far as regards Mr. Chamberlain. Nor is the Unionist press, upon which Mr. Chamberlain has special claims, much more outspoken, with the exception of the London *Times*. The Birmingham *Daily Post* says:

"They [the Chamberlain proposals] will, we believe, create a new dividing-line in political life, for the very indefiniteness of the policy foreshadowed will inevitably tend to confuse the issues. Already it has been proved that Lord Rosebery was right when he said that the country was threatened by a new classification of parties."

The Liberal papers for the most part profess to be bewildered by the indefiniteness of the Chamberlain scheme. "One thing only is definite in his proposals," asserts *The Daily Chronicle* (London), "namely, that the food of the people shall be heavily taxed." "The issue is certainly not less important to the country than when Mr. Gladstone launched his Home Rule scheme," thinks *The Westminster Gazette* (London), "and the dissentients may be expected to act with at least equal firmness." *The Daily Post* (Liverpool) thinks there is "no possible retreat" for the Colonial Secretary. "He must succeed, or end his great career with a colossal failure." *The Daily Independent* (Sheffield) says: "Great Britain and the empire must be saved from this ruinous scheme, and the Liberal party must save them." *The East Anglian Daily Times* pronounces Mr. Chamberlain's scheme "outrageous," and the Manchester *Guardian* declares:

"Some of the most effective trade advertisements are those which, with a fine robust air of openness, avow that the advertiser is not purely a lover of his kind, but just a business man who wants to make money out of you, but who asks you whether money can not be made out of you more to your advantage by him than by rival establishments. There is something of that note in Mr. Chamberlain's startlingly direct enumeration of the baits which he proposes to use. There is a fine obtrusive way of setting the net in sight of certain human birds which is not in vain at all, but often decidedly alluring; they are apt to think there must be something akin to benevolence in such a plain, blunt way of setting out to take you in."

THE FATE OF THE CANAL TREATY.

THE fate of the Panama canal treaty will soon be decided so far as the Congress of Colombia is concerned. There is, indeed, some discrepancy in the information upon which European organs base this idea of the subject, for we find the London *Times* stating that the Colombian Congress convenes this week in special session, while the Parisian press believes that the expedient of an extraordinary legislative meeting was abandoned. President Marroquin, we read, preferred to wait until next month, when Congress comes together in regular course, for he could not persuade himself that the majority favor the treaty to which he stands committed. Press despatches from Bogota have stated positively that the Congress convenes today.

Definite information, however, regarding the attitude of the executive branch of the republic of Colombia toward the interoceanic canal treaty is supposed to be afforded by a recent publication in the *Correo Nacional* (Bogota) over the signature of a statesman long honored with the confidence of President Marroquin. If we are to accept this authority, the canal concession to the United States is perfectly legal and binding as it stands. "The United States alone," we read, "is in a position to undertake the completion of the great work with any prospect of success." The statement that Colombia feels concern at the prospect of a diminution of her sovereignty in the Isthmus is scouted by the publication we are quoting. The sovereignty of Colombia is doubtful even now, it is added. "That sovereignty has never been absolute, since, by the treaty of 1846, the Americans may land troops whenever they deem it advisable." However, it is well, we are told, not to push this logic to extremes, out of deference to patriotic susceptibilities, "and because in a hundred years or in two hundred years, Colombia will perhaps have become a strong Power"; for which and for other reasons the South American authority thinks the United States should pay a little more than the sum agreed.

The European press was at first inclined to expect the failure of the treaty, owing to opposition when the Colombian Congress convened. Latterly, however, a less pessimistic view has been entertained, even the anti-American *Hamburger Nachrichten* deeming it inevitable that the United States must ultimately carry the day. The *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels) adheres still to the opinion that the coming session of the Colombian Congress may be marked by such irreconcilable opposition that the treaty will have to be postponed. It says further:

"Hostility to the Hay-Herrian treaty has lost nothing of its energy, and it is not easy to see how President Marroquin can secure a vote for the measure to which he is personally so favorable. Congress was to have been called in special session, but the idea was abandoned, it seems, because it was foreseen that a majority of the members would refuse to vote for the treaty with the United States. So the ordinary session of the Congress, which convenes in regular course on July 23 next, will be patiently awaited. In the mean time efforts will be made to win over a sufficient number of members to avoid complications. . . . We may reasonably conclude that the interoceanic canal, altho decided in principle, is not yet on the eve of realization, and that the advocates of the Nicaragua route, who are strongly supported by certain American financial interests, need not abandon hope, notwithstanding that their project is much less advantageous than the other. President Roosevelt, who has intervened personally to secure the adoption of the Panama route, will have to use all his influence to attain his end."

The statement of the Belgian paper regarding the date of the Congressional session is contradicted by *The South American Journal* (London), which states positively that the Colombian legislators have been summoned for the present week to decide finally upon "the ratification or rejection of the treaty," and this investors' organ adds:

"That it will meet with strong opposition is certain, and that it may even fail to receive ratification is not by any means im-

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possible. Some object to it as wounding the territorial sovereignty of the republic, and others on the ground that the pecuniary compensations are not good enough. Whatever the result, there is talk of trouble in the country as a consequence—of a separatist revolution in the Department of Panama and occupation by the United States of the Isthmus. Again, it is said that President Marroquin, using the extraordinary powers conferred upon him during the revolution, and which still subsist, as well as the state of siege, will, in accord with his Cabinet, assume the responsibility of ratifying the Hay-Herrian treaty, just as he has taken that of prolonging the concession of the French Company from 1904 to 1910 without any intervention whatever on the part of the Congress. Such a proceeding would, no doubt, cause much disturbance throughout the republic, but the Government of the United States would probably have no hesitation in acting upon the President's authority, and, without further ceremony, protecting the rights so acquired."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CHANG-CHIH-TUNG, YUAN-SHIH-KAI, AND PRINCE CHING.

YUAN-SHIH-KAI'S rapid rise to influence and high office at Peking surprised all who follow the political situation in China, with the exception of the very few whose sources of information are close to the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor. The rise of Yuan-Shih-Kai is suspected by *The Celestial Empire*, a British paper published in Shanghai, to be more or less connected with the decline of Chang-Chih-Tung's influence. Chang-Chih-Tung would be described in this country as "a statesman out of a job." He "is now being fooled with promises of an audience," we read in the Anglo-Chinese organ already quoted, while "his finances," according to the London *Times*, "have been recently exposed to severe criticism by Yuan-Shih-Kai." Nevertheless, Yuan-Shih-Kai has his political defeats, and the Empress-Dowager lately inflicted a public humiliation upon him by revoking the scheme of taxation which he had matured for the province of which he is viceroy. This is interpreted by the London *Times* as a setback indeed for this influential statesman, of whom it said editorially not long ago:

YUAN-SHIH-KAI,

One of the many rivals for the Empress-Dowager's favor.

CHANG CHIH TUNG.

In spite of his great age he leads the "reform" party.

"By the more enlightened and progressive of his own countrymen Yuan-Shih-Kai is regarded as the best hope of their cause. Chosen at the early age of thirty by the late Li Hung Chang to uphold, as Resident in Korea, the claims of China against those of Japan, when the court of Seoul was still regarded as a vassal court by the Peking Government, he showed the strength of his character by the vigor and resolution with which he carried out his instructions. He was not too old to learn the bitter lessons of the war to which his mission led. . . . He has had insight enough to see, and moral courage enough to recognize, that his country owes her disasters to the self-sufficient and intolerant ignorance which led her first to challenge Japan and then to defy Japan and all Europe together without in either case counting the cost. Like them, he has given the strongest of proofs that he is not blinded by the delusions which haunt the palace, the Manchu camp, and the examination-halls from which the ruling class of the oldest empire in the world emerge panoplied in vain and futile pedantry. During the anti-foreign movement he took the same wise and courageous course as they did. He stoutly refused to give the smallest countenance to the Boxers, in spite of the known wishes and even of the edicts of the court. He even anticipated their action, for in his then province of Shantung he made a clean sweep of the conspirators before the plot had fully matured in Peking. His conduct since he has taken up his new appointment in the metropolitan province of Chi-li has borne out his reputation. The foreign ministers express their satisfaction at his good faith and at the good faith shown by the court under his influence. The missionaries, who sometimes know more and see further than the diplomatists, are equally pleased. He transacts the business of his office with the punctuality and directness that belong to a strong man. He has restored order and tranquillity to the distracted capital. His foreign-drilled soldiers observe excellent discipline. The streets of Peking are crowded and busy, and foreigners can move through them without fear of molestation or of insult."

PRINCE CHING,

Raised to high office, it is said, because of his timidity.

Chang-Chih-Tung, represented sometimes as the friend and sometimes as the foe of the eminent Yuan-Shih-Kai, receives the highest praise from the Paris *Temps*. He prevented a general massacre of Europeans in the interior of China at the time of the Boxer outbreaks. He is a Manchu, a thinker, a man of letters, with a sharp wit. That he is a poet is shown conclusively by the English version of his ode to the Emperor of China, which appeared recently in *East of Asia*, an able Shanghai magazine. "So unswerving is his diligence," asserts Chang-Chih-Tung of the Emperor in the ode we have alluded to, "that he sleeps in his clothes," and from the foreigner the poet-statesman says his country derives great profit. "With equally kind and cordial hospitality we meet all aliens; may they live upon the borders of our sea, or on our distant mountains!" But the Empress-Dowager is thought to dislike Chang-Chih-Tung, either on account of the tone of his poetry or because he is a friend of the progressive party in Japan. To the great disappointment of the English, she did not appoint him to the post of Grand Secretary, which corresponds roughly to that of a Minister of Foreign Affairs in Europe, when the illustrious Yung Lu died last April.

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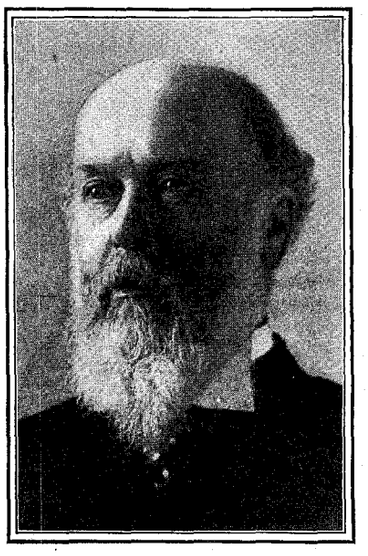
She appointed Prince Ching, whose name came into prominence during the recent Manchurian flurry with Russia. Prince Ching is a descendant of a former Emperor, and if we may accept the estimate of the *Giornale d'Italia* (Rome) he is a mere figurehead, a puppet in the hands of the Empress-Dowager, whose only positive trait is a tendency to deception. He has also cunning and much cowardice. As hatred of the foreigner is a passport to the favor of the Empress-Dowager, it is surmised by the *Figaro* (Paris) that Prince Ching is no friend to Europeans. According to this and other Paris papers there is much alarm in the royal palace at Peking regarding the health of the aged woman who rules China in fact, if not in name. The Emperor is a friend of reform; he is taking measures to outwit the Empress Dowager, who wants his deposition, and if the situation does not clear there will soon be exciting news involving the Empress-Dowager, the Emperor, Chang-Chih-Tung, Yuan-Shih-Kai, and Prince Ching. The Powers can not very well interfere, it is conjectured by our French authorities. The *Journal des Débats* (Paris) actually insinuates that they may look on in the guise of spectators should any dynastic feud break out in the palace. It observes:

"In order to understand the situation clearly and to avoid going from one mistake to another, it must never be lost sight of . . . that the intention of the Powers was not to revivify this worn-out empire, to draw it out of its lethargy, to start it on the path of modern civilization, or to place it in the category of honestly and wisely governed states. Such an undertaking would have been almost indiscreet, for the Chinese ought to understand better than the people of the West or than even the Japanese what mode of government is best suited to themselves. . . . We are told that Prince Ching, the new Grand Secretary, a weak and devious character, will be the Empress-Dowager's puppet, and that she herself will be the real ruler. It is said also that this woman, regarding whose character there has been general agreement for a long time, continues hostile to all reforms, and that she has shown her hostility anew by abrogating the fiscal measures of Yuan-Shih-Kai. We are told that the officials continue their exactions, upon pretext of getting money with which to pay the indemnity to the Powers. The immorality prevalent at Peking since the return of the court to that capital is also denounced. In other words, nothing in China has changed since the insurrection of the Boxers. If all this be true, it is deplorable, but there is no reason to be surprised at it. The Powers have confined themselves strictly to obtaining redress for their own several grievances."

This attitude they will maintain so long as public order continues, says the pro-Russian organ of the French capital. As regards Manchuria, the Paris papers say that the Chinese masses know little about that question and would scarcely understand it even if they were supplied with the facts.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED KONGO HORRORS.

GREAT BRITAIN is about to invite the attention of the Powers to the so-called horrors of the Kongo Independent State, and, according to Mr. Balfour, a full and unprejudiced investigation will be made of what Sir Charles Dilke calls "a complete enslavement of the whole population," aggravated by monopoly and militarism. Sir Charles Dilke told the House of Commons lately that "the Kongo State had been spending money like water within the last few weeks in publishing denials" and in distributing "lying books." Sir John Gorst said he understood that President Roosevelt "had already taken steps to protest against the condition of affairs in Kongoland," altho the United States is not a party to the Berlin act by which the huge African domain is handed over to Leopold, King of the Belgians. In reply to allegations of this sort, the *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels) says "there is an international intrigue against the Kongo State." W. T. Stead, writing in the London *Daily News*, declares that the entire Belgian press has been "gagged," and that we are not to accept its judgment upon conditions in "that modern hell known as the Kongo Free State." The Paris *Temps* says:



SIR JOHN GORST,
Who inspired the Congo investigation.

"The Kongo Free State is accused of having duped the civilized world. A host of reports emanating from missionaries, traders, and officers openly accuse the Government of resorting to forced labor, of employing cannibals as troops, of hurling them in raids upon the peaceful population, of practising violence and cruelty in the collection of the excessive taxes levied upon the unfortunate savages. Horrible stories have dealt with nameless atrocities, with demoniacal acts perpetrated against the natives. Thousands of fugitives have abandoned the villages, seeking refuge in the forests or with the missionaries. In a single enclosure, according to an eye-witness, there were on one occasion as many as eighty amputated hands, sanguinary evidence of the activity of the tax collector. Such is the bill of indictment brought against the Kongo Independent State and its sovereign. . . . It is right to wait for the defense. Every accused, and particularly every accused state, is entitled to plead in its own case."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POINTS OF VIEW.

EGYPT.—"A French politician the other day muttered something in his beard about the evacuation of Egypt," remarks *Blackwood's* (Edinburgh). "He ought to be told, and his countrymen ought to learn—if Fashoda has not taught them, as we believe it has—that even if Mr. Morley and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman were to contemplate so retrograde a policy, the whole empire would rise against them. Evacuation is impossible, and even Mr. Morley must now recognize this fact. Mr. Gladstone left many bad legacies. In Egypt he prevented a logical arrangement; and until we frankly assume the protectorate of that country, our position there will be anomalous, tho in no way insecure."

ALGERIAN COMPLICATIONS.—On the eve of the French President's trip to Algeria, the resignation of the governor-general of that province came like a theatrical sensation, says the *Illustration* (Paris). Governor-General Revoil, it continues, came to Paris to discuss Algerian interests before the Chamber of Deputies. He was preparing to return to his post and was twice refused an audience by the Premier. He did not think this an indication of confidence in himself, and resigned. The Premier, continues our authority, thought the governor-general was partly responsible for the charge in the *Petit Dauphinois* to the effect that the Premier's son had asked a million francs from one of the religious orders for the use of his political influence in its favor. As yet, concludes the Paris paper, the connection of ideas here is not evident to the public.

M. DE WITTE'S BOMB.—"On the declaration of the Anglo-Japanese alliance—so runs the yarn" according to *The Kobe Herald*, an Anglo-Japanese organ, "the Russian generals were mad for war, and their only misgiving was lest M. de Witte should impose his usual veto. However, at the customary state council, presided over by the Czar, it was noted with satisfaction that the spoil-sport was absent. Indeed, he only put in an appearance after the Czar had been persuaded to adopt an aggressive policy against Great Britain. M. de Witte listened while it was all explained to him, and then, to the intense delight of everybody, he proceeded to praise the idea of the war in the most extravagant terms. His colleagues naturally inquired of him by what means he proposed to find the money, whereupon M. de Witte looked round him in pained surprise; 'Surely your Majesty does not expect *me* to raise the money?' he cried, laying especial emphasis on the word 'me.' 'The thing is impossible. The treasury is practically empty, and when I expressed approval of the war I never dreamt but that the generals who advised your Majesty to declare it had the money already in hand'—at which bombshell the council broke up in confusion."

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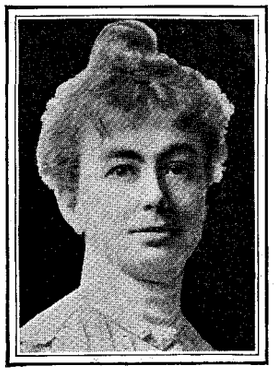
NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE DAY.

A PROMISING FIRST NOVEL.

THE LEGATEE. By Alice Prescott Smith. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 324 pp. Price, $1.50. Houghton, Mifflin Company.

IN this her first book, Mrs. Smith proves herself mistress of the knack of story-telling. The workmanship is much above the average. Yet, after all is all told, one feels a vague sense of something wanting—a lack of that vital, human propulsion which compels some stories to write themselves out.

A young Southerner inherits through the death of his uncle a lumber-mill in a Wisconsin town, and with the mill he also comes in for the animosity felt by the people of that section toward the man departed. The animosity was largely political, the effect of the feud between North and South during the Civil War. Besides the Americans in the place, the mill hands were made up of French, Belgians, Scandinavians, and other foreigners, and among the latter flourishes a queer medley of Socialistic sentiment. Many complications arise, which culminate at last in a strike and in attempts upon the hero's life.



ALICE PRESCOTT SMITH.

The heroine is the youthful daughter of a local physician. Important parts are played by two other young girls, one Scandinavian, the other French. Many of the scenes are graphic and picturesque, and a climax of dramatic intensity is reached during the progress of a forest fire, which sweeps over all the region, destroying in its wake both property and people.

The dialog is always good, sometimes touching the brilliant. The hero and a picturesquely desperate Belgian—who could do credit to himself on any stage—succeed in rescuing many of the people. By means of this dramatic episode of the fire, all the cross-purposes of the story seem to be righted.

The narrative moves rapidly, the incidents are almost unflagging, the air of local color seems true, and the sincerity of aim unquestioned. Yet when all is done, one feels a sort of remoteness from the actualities of life—something of the unreality of a stage picture.

TWO STORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR.

BEFORE THE DAWN. By Joseph Altsheler. Cloth, 5¼ x 7⅞ in., 372 pp. Price, $1.50. Doubleday, Page & Co.

THE CAPTAIN. By Churchill Williams. Cloth 5¼ x 7¾ in., 439 pp. Price, $1.50. The Lothrop Publishing Company.

THESE two books, each dealing with phases of the Civil War, have been published almost simultaneously. In certain superficial traits, the two books are not unlike. Yet one, Mr. Altsheler's work, while it falls far short of being the great novel of the Civil War, is an excellent story, and the other falls only a little short of being a rather silly tale. In each, Grant plays an important part: in Mr. Altsheler's book, only as the victorious general, who by his victories affects the lives of the characters; in Mr. Williams's book, it is a domesticated Grant to whom we are introduced—Grant in his early and unsuccessful days before the war, and Grant on his way to being a great general. The author leaves him at the beginning of his great fame. It is very clear what the author has tried to do—that is, to give an intimate picture of Grant and to trace the various traits of character which ultimately made him one of the greatest of modern commanders, never permitting the picture of the hero to dim the picture of the man. Mr. Williams never in the course of his book calls Grant by name. He always speaks of him as "the Captain." He has resorted to many similar tricks to make Grant appear close to the other characters in the story and close to the reader. The author evidently studied his subject well and made a part for Grant which was more truth than legend. The only trouble with the book is that Mr. Williams was not quite a big enough man to write it. His sympathetic touch is apt to become a sentimental one at the least provocation. There is no doubt that he went at his subject with a sincerity almost reverent; nevertheless, "the Captain" is a poor story. One might easily make two stories out of it, so separate is the love interest, to which much space is devoted, and the chapters relating to the Captain himself. It reads as tho the author had first written his character-study of Grant, and some one had said to him: "My boy, books without love interest don't sell," whereupon the author wrote a number of chapters full of "love interest," in which three couples are neatly paired off.

JOSEPH ALTSHELER.

CHURCHILL WILLIAMS.

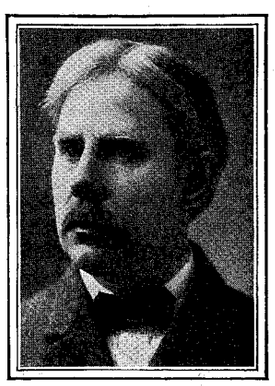
In Mr. Altsheler's book there is also much love-making that could be spared and the book be benefited thereby. When an author succeeds in arousing one's interest in anything so serious as our Civil War, a reader has scant patience with the needlessly prolonged misunderstandings of two silly young people whom we are sure will in the end marry and be happy ever afterward. Otherwise it is a stirring war-tale written with force out of a full knowledge of historical facts, and, one would judge, from a personal acquaintance with the country in which the action takes place. The story deals with the fall of Richmond and the Wilderness battles—a period which has been singularly neglected by the many novelists of the Civil War.

MARRED IN THE MAKING.

DARREL OF THE BLESSED ISLES. By Irving Bacheller. Cloth, 5¼ x 7½ in., 419 pp. Price, $1.50. Lothrop Publishing Company.

MR. BACHELLER is happier in the name of his latest novel than in his technique. The conception is a good one, rich in promise, but there is inadequate realization. "Darrel of the Blessed Isles" is a blend of the melodramatic and the ethically ideal, with the flavor throughout of that "North Country" out of which he has already gathered a golden harvest. You feel the artisan putting together material selected for effect rather than for wear. It is a "made" story, or, at least, has savor of the bibliofactory, altho Mr. Bacheller, in a preface, more than insinuates that there was an actual prototype of Darrel the tinker, and further declares, in a prelude, that the tale, in its nucleus at least, awaits the visitor to the "North Country."

A collie escapes from a childless couple up there in the primeval hills, and, after a month's absence, comes bounding back over the snow with a small red sleigh in which is a four-year-old youngster, who said "Anah jouhan" and other things in the same strange tongue, which, later, the reader is informed is Syriac. The Allens adopt him and a French farm-hand of theirs called the foundling Trove, a presumable corruption of *trouve;* and he grows up into an exemplary young man of mechanical virtue.



IRVING BACHELLER.

Altho such a good young man must needs be the hero, Darrel the tinker, bizarre absentee landlord of the "Blessed Isles," which he visits only in the spirit, is the dominating figure. His speech is whimsically rhetorical, he is eloquent in maxims of rectitude, and he knows the Bard of Avon by heart. Trove is a boy of fifteen when the tinker comes his way with a mare and a filly, an Arab barb, a rather strange outfit for a mender of clocks in the North Country! Trove is a "cute" youngster, for when Darrel tries to stick him with a riddle and asks: "How is it that the clock can keep a sober face?" he instantly replies: "It has no ears." He also goes fourteen miles, to Hillsborough, the next day and buys "The Works of Shakespeare," being no longer able to do without them after learning that the crisp, rhythmical remarks of Darrel are quotations from that bard.

Trove goes to school at Hillsborough soon after and runs across the tinker there. That worthy's small room, with many clocks ticking away the flight of time, becomes the boy's real academy and Darrel its Plato, tho his method is Socratic. Trove confides to him his desire to write tales, which gives Darrel just the opening for a stunning one about a banker who stole one hundred thousand dollars in order to ransom his kidnaped boy and forever after is a very repentant and unhappy thief.

Then Darrel tells the boy of the Blessed Isles. "Imagine the infinite sea of Time which is behind us. . . . Thou shalt see rising out of it the

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Blessed Isles of the Imagination." There are a score of well-worn books of choice poetry on the tinker's shelves, and he reads from them to the boy in order to supply him with a passport to these same isles.

With a scheme like this, the author should keep it well in hand, tooling it briskly and with a firm grasp on the reins to its goal. But Mr. Bacheller's penchant for realism draws him away from the development of his romance, and he repeatedly dwells on things quite by-the-by, to the reader's no small annoyance. One is also confused as well as bored by the ever-emergent new countryman who has very little to do with the plot, but furnishes excuse for a "story." Everybody gets into trouble, and the tangled skein is not deftly straightened out, but is plucked at in rather a desultory and rambling fashion. After telling the story himself, Mr. Bacheller, without any special rime or reason, introduces an aged old man, in the last chapter, who gives the *denouement* to some unknown auditor. In a word, there is a lack of literary form in "Darrel of the Blessed Isles" as a whole, and the tinker himself is so laboriously *factus ad unguem* that he reeks of his creation. There is no real grip to the story anywhere.

JOYLESS IRELAND.

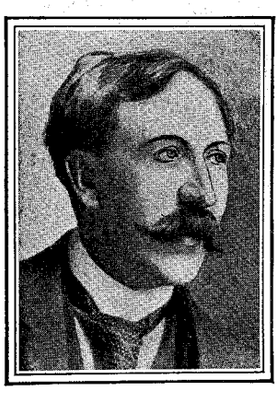
THE UNTILLED FIELD. By George Moore. Cloth, 5¼ x 7¾ in., 381 pp. Price, $1.50. J. B. Lippincott Company.

GEORGE MOORE is not, as many of his readers claim, "the greatest of living creators of fiction"; but he may with justice be called the greatest destroyer of fiction, for at one blow he has smitten into unrecognizable fragments an image of a nation which has been hallowed by time and tradition and fondly cherished even by those who had most reason to know that it was a sham.

Romantic Ireland, as shown upon the stage, is no more. Gone are the lovers strolling among beautiful old ruins by moonlight. In fact, after reading Mr. Moore's melancholy book, one wonders if the moon ever fulls in Ireland. Everything else, certainly, is on the wane.

Rollicking Ireland is no more. The lads of spirit and gaiety, the Con the Shaughrans and Handy Andys, have emigrated long ago—to the blessed isles of Avalon it must be, for the gossoons who land at Ellis Island do not answer to their marks of identification. And Kathleen Mavourneen and Nora Machree have swelled the maiden tribute, the twenty thousand virgins which, to use the rhetoric of Ned Carmady, Moore's type of the anti-clerical Irishman, Erin has immolated upon the altar of that monster which menaces not only the joy of the nation, but its very life—the church.

For, tho he is careful not to indorse the view editorially, the cause of Ireland's miseries which Mr. Moore expresses through the mouths of his characters with most cogency and fervor is not so much an economic as it is a psychical one—the Christian priests have killed the pagan joy of life which is Ireland's right by ancient inheritance. With the ascetic view of love, they have frowned upon the natural mating of the sexes through lovers' strolls and merry-makings. They have arranged marriages of convenience, and charged exorbitant fees for consummating them. They have discountenanced the natural and universal taste for little luxuries, and more or less costly pleasures, that contributions might be augmented toward the building of never-completed churches. The effect of this program Mr. Moore endeavors to show in its various phases through thirteen stories. The first and the last, "In the Clay" and "The Way Back," deal with the expulsion of art from Ireland as a natural, tho not designed, consequence of priestly asceticism. A young sculptor is given an order to make a statue for a church. He takes a young Irish girl as a model. Her little brothers, who intend to be priests, learning of it, break into his studio and destroy his work. The girl, who is a "pagan" by temperament, flees from her uncongenial environment to London, where good fortune alone saves her innocence from wreck on the coasts of Bohemia.



GEORGE MOORE.

"Some Parishioners" tells several tragedies of priest-made marriages, not the least of which is the spiritual agony of the conscience-stricken Father when he realizes the evil wrought by his meddling with nature.

In "The Wild Goose," the longest and strongest story of the collection, the situation of that "most distressful country" is set forth in all its phases. It is the tale of an adventurer, a wandering knight in the cause of the oppressed, who is stayed in Ireland by a woman who idealizes him as the destined redeemer of the country. She is an heiress and adds her fortune to his eloquence in the cause of restoring Ireland to its pristine glory. But her conception of this state is Catholic Ireland, and his goes back still farther, to pagan Erin. Their propaganda falls to the ground, their lives divide, and the husband leaves his wife and child with relief to fight unhampered for the cause of human freedom in the Transvaal.

"Home Sickness" is the tale of a returned emigrant, for whom life is so joyless in Ireland that he leaves his affianced sweetheart to return to the glad rush and gay company of the saloon.

"Julia Cahill's Curse" describes a desolate district upon which, the peasants believed, a ban had been placed by a coquette whom the priest, because she would not obey his command to marry, had hounded from the parish. All the young people who could imitated her example and, despite the efforts of the priest to detain them, left the country.

"'He has sent away Life,' I said to myself, 'and now they are following Life.'"

BEHIND THE SCENES.

A DAUGHTER OF THESPIS. By John D. Barry. Cloth, 5½ x 7½ in., 347 pp. Price, $1.50. L. C. Page Company.

THIS story sets forth the career of a young New England girl who, after training for a teacher, goes upon the stage, not from an innate propulsion toward that life, or toward art in general, but merely as a means of earning a livelihood. The story reads much like a transcript of the daily life of stage people, from the point of view of one who catches frequent, if scrappy, knowledge through having been admitted behind the scenes as observer or critic. There is scarcely anything like a plot. The interest is wholly sustained through the daily contact with other actors and through intimate conversations which air a great deal of "shop." But the conversations are bright and seem life-like, and will doubtless be read with interest by the large number of people who are fascinated more or less by whatever connects itself with the mimic life.

JOHN D. BARRY.

The tale is well told, after the leisurely and minute fashion of stories in which nothing in particular happens to disturb the reader's nerves. The diction is correct and smooth, but as a whole lacks virility. If this story has a message, it is to show that those born without dramatic fiber may through circumstance emit at times sparks of fire, but can never hope to retain more than mediocre place.

THE EXALTATION OF A "SHILLING-SHOCKER."

THE HOUSE ON THE HUDSON. By Frances Powell. Cloth, 5¼ x 7½ in., 416 pp. Price, $1.50. Charles Scribner's Sons.

THIS novel is a tremendously sensational one. The interest is absorbing. One gets early on the trail of the *denouement*, but when it comes there is an element of surprise in it.

The young woman in the story is her own biographer. Instead of a plain female who, later, is to exercise all the inebriating blandishments of Helen of Troy, the fair scribe sturdily dwells upon her ravishing charms. She had no bringing up to speak of, and her papa and mamma suffer dreadful reverses of fortune and launch the young Venus on a cruel world with the disagreeable need of making her own way. The book is extremely up-to-date in the athletic accomplishments of Athena Derohan (there is a name that *had* to be lived up to!); for her gay papa, with no prophetic foresight of how useful the lesson was to be, had trained his child to box like a professional! So when it is "up to her" to do the trick, she delivers a swinging blow and follows it up by a faultless *coup de grace*. That the gentleman survives and is afterward disposed of in a sinking yacht is probably only to leave the heroine without the stain of homicide on her young soul.

The character of the book is Madame Ferranti, the fascinating old lady in her dotage, who is extremely sensitive to thunder-storms, which make her see dogs and babble darkly of the final revelation of the mystery. She is a sort of blend of "the Honorable Mrs. Screwton" and "Miss Havisham." Philip is so fascinating and masterful and delightfully bad that you almost wish he could turn out noble. One is frankly more interested in him than in the nice young man who wins the lady in quite a casual way, and who, when he has the center of the stage, is like a poor relation at dinner.

The invention and atmosphere in the book are admirably sustained, and the style is one that takes its place with that of the late "Duchess" and Rhoda Broughton. Despite the feeling that it is "awfully sensational," the reader will shamelessly devour page after page. It is proof of the author's ability in the field she has chosen that, despite the feverish absorption her tale arouses, the incidents, for nearly the whole of the action, are restricted to a queer old house smothered in woods on the Hudson.

Frances Powell is clever, and she has written a briskly entertaining book with much imaginative force. But it is not the kind of one that takes root in a library and is known to successive generations.

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE LITERARY DIGEST is in receipt of the following books:

"The New Force."—W. I. Gordon. (Suggestive New Thought Publishing Company, Cleveland, $0.25.)

"Breakers Ahead."—Jane R. Griffing. (J. S. Ogilvie Publishing Company, $0.25.)

"The Peril and the Preservation of the Home."—Jacob A. Riis. (George W. Jacobs & Co.)

"Memories of Yale Life and Men."—Timothy Dwight. (Dodd, Mead & Co., $2.50 net.)

"The Old China Book."—N. Hudson Moore. (Frederick A. Stokes Company, $2 net.)

"Felix."—Robert Hichens. (Frederick A. Stokes Company.)

"Discourses on War."—William Ellery Channing. (Ginn & Co.)

"A Gentleman of the South."—William Carrott Brown. (The Macmillan Company, $1.50.)

CURRENT POETRY.

After Love.

By ARTHUR SYMONS.

Oh, to part now, and, parting now,
Never to meet again;
To have done forever, I and thou,
With joy, and so with pain.

It is too hard, too hard to meet
If we must love no more;
Those other meetings were too sweet
That went before.

And I would have, now love is over,
An end to all, an end:
I can not, having been your lover,
Stoop to become your friend!

At Dusk.

By FLORENCE EARLE COATES.

Earth, mother dear, I turn, at last,
A homesick child, to thee!
The twilight glow is fading fast,
And soon I shall be free
To seek the dwelling, dim and vast
Where thou awaitest me.

I am so weary, mother dear!—
Thy child, of dual race,
Who gazing past the star-beams clear
Sought the Undying's face!
Now I but ask to know thee near,
To feel thy large embrace!

Tranquil to lie against thy breast—
Deep source of voiceless springs.
Where hearts are healed, and wounds are dressed,
And naught or sobs or sings:
Against thy breast to lie at rest—
A life that folds its wings.

Some time I may—for who can tell?—
Awake, no longer tired,
And see the fields of asphodel,
The dreamed-of, the desired,
And find the heights where He doth dwell
To whom my heart aspired!

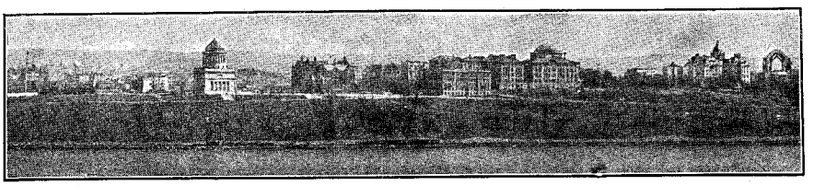
And then— But peace awaiteth me—
Thy peace: I feel it near.
The hush, the voiceless mystery,
The languor without fear!
Enfold me—close; I want but thee!—
But thee, Earth-mother dear!

—In June *Scribner's Magazine.*

The Mount of the Holy Cross, Colorado.

By ROBERT MACKAY.

Changeless as Horeb's ever-during rock,
Since Moses smote the water from its side;
Unaltered by the lashing of the tide
Of years, whose surges thy foundations mock;
Silent, serene, ringed round with massive towers,



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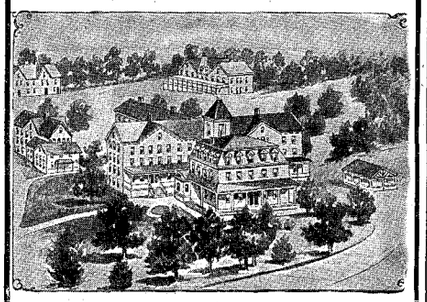

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Thou dost defy time, tempest, and the sun,
Gleaming symbolic of the Holy One,
Who sacrificed His life to ransom ours.

Cross of the driven snow, the western winds,
Whispering among the boughs that woo them rest,
Touch some twin chord that vibrates in my breast,
And waken in my heart a hope that finds
Its purpose, stimulated by each breath,
That thou wilt be my crucifix in death!

—In June *Traveller*.

Racers.

By JOHN B. TABB.

The winds from many a cloudy mane
Shake off the sweat of gathering rain,
And whicker with delight.
No slope of pasture-land they need
Whereon to rest, or drink, or feed—
Their life the rapture of the speed,
The frenzy of the flight.

—In June *Harper's Magazine*.

The Game of Life.

By GELETT BURGESS.

Not the quarry, but the chase,
Not the laurel, but the race,
Not the hazard, but the play,
Make, me, Lord, enjoy alway.

—In June *McClure's Magazine*.

New York Bay at Dusk.

By MILDRED I. MCNEAL.

Now comes the grateful night in from the sea
And all her flowery purples soon unfolds,
Like April-countries, violet-sown, where we
May have the hush the eager time withholds,
Methinks heaven sometimes takes the world aside
And lends a happy ear to all it says—
Soothing its great unrest, and for its pride
Showing again the simple fields of praise.
This starry-lighted island is no more
The quick and restless city of my task:
It dreams with me and what may be in store
For either, we do neither know nor ask,
Leaving the dear fulfilment of our youth
In the safe care of thought and time and truth.

—In June *New Metropolitan Magazine*.

PERSONALS.

Dumas in Conversation.—Dumas the Elder was celebrated for his never-failing wealth of repartee in every-day conversation. To illustrate this, *Collier's Weekly* tells this story:

One evening Dumas was at a theater in Paris with a literary colleague, witnessing a play written by the latter. The author of "Monte Cristo" noticed that one of the audience in the parquet had gone to sleep during the performance. He

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"Think so?"

"Yes—I'll bet you a dollar I can name this cigar."

"Done."

"It is a —— Panatella," naming a well-known brand of imported cigars.

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nudged his friend, pointed to the sleeper, and whispered: "That's the effect your plays have on people."

Soon after the same couple went to the same theater on an evening when a play by Dumas was being produced. Again there was a man asleep in the parquet. "Look," said Dumas's friend, "at the result of your dramatic works."

"Why, my dear fellow," was the reply, "that's the same man we saw asleep here the other night. He is not awake yet."

Depew Subsided.—At a dinner given to a crowd of railroad men Senator Chauncey M. Depew was the star speaker. In the course of his remarks, says the New York *Times*, he told a story wherein a certain manufacturer, left practically alone in his factory through a lockout, was represented as pointing to the office clock over his desk and saying to his friend:

"There are only two hands in my office that never strike."

"Whereupon," said the Senator, "the clock struck two."

After the dinner one of Senator Depew's friends came up and congratulated him:

"Your speech was great," he said. "That story about the clock is a daisy."

The Senator beamed. "I think it is pretty good," he said modestly.

About five minutes later another friend came up who was not so eulogistic.

"Chauncey," he said, "I think that story about the clock better every time I hear it. I think to-night was the fiftieth time."

"Why, President Newell says that story is a daisy," expostulated Mr. Depew.

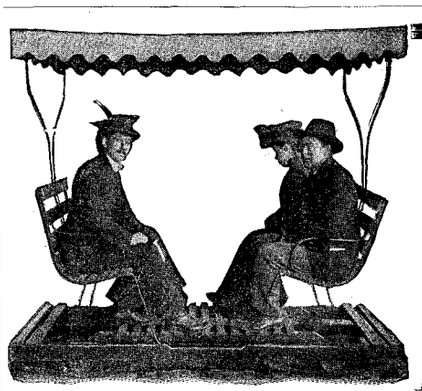
The other laughed. "You ought to study botany, Chauncey, and you would learn that a daisy is a hardy annual."

And thereupon the Senator subsided.

How Milburn Won His Spurs.—The death of William Henry Milburn, for many years famous as "The Blind Chaplain," recalls to *Everybody's Magazine* the incident that led to his first election as a chaplain of Congress in 1845. Says that magazine:

When Milburn was twenty-two, a very slight figure, his left eye entirely blind, his right eye having but one little transparent point not so big as the head of a pin, giving him but a glimmer of the outer world, he was traveling by Ohio River steamer from Cincinnati to Wheeling, W. Va. He was then entirely unknown to the world except to the little band of circuit riders among whom he had preaching in the backwoods for a year. To his great delight he found on the steamer a large number of Congressmen of both Houses, who were on their way to Washington for the opening of a session. Milburn expected great profit from their conversation, but was soon shocked at their profanity, their gambling, and their drunkenness.

The Ohio River was low, and fogs coming on, they were detained over Sunday. At breakfast a committee of passengers invited Milburn to preach, and he accepted. A congregation of three hundred persons assembled, the young preacher taking his place at the door between the ladies' and gentlemen's cabins; the Congressmen were seated immediately on his right and left. At the close of a brief sermon, to the astonishment of all, he bowed to the men before him and said: "I understand that you are members of the Congress of the United States, and as such you are, or should be, the representatives, not only of the political opinions, but also of the intellectual, moral, and religious condition of the people of this country. As I had rarely seen men of your class, I felt, on coming aboard this boat, a natural interest to hear your conversation and to observe your habits. If I am to judge the nation by you, I can come to no other conclusion than that it is com-



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posed of profane swearers, card-players, and drunkards. Suppose there should be an intelligent foreigner on this boat, traveling through the country with the intent of forming a well-considered and unbiased opinion as to the practical working of our free institutions—seeing you and learning your position, what would be his conclusion? Inevitably, that our experiment is a failure, and our country is hastening to destruction."

The Congressmen were a plucky lot, and so admired the nerve and sincerity of the young preacher that they at once bestowed a purse upon him, and on arriving in Washington secured his election as chaplain. He held the position for fifty-eight years.

Three English Statesmen.—Mr. Justin McCarthy, in his book "British Political Portraits" (The Outlook Company), which has been recently published, pays considerable attention to the personalities of many of the most prominent workers in British public affairs. From his interesting accounts we glean the following concerning Mr. Balfour:

"Balfour is a man of many and varied tastes and pursuits. He is an advocate of athleticism, and is especially distinguished for his devotion to the game of golf. He attained at one time a certain reputation in London society, because of the interest he took in some peculiar phases of fanciful intellectual inventiveness. He was for a while a leading member, if not the actual inventor, of a certain order of psychical research whose members were described as 'The Souls.' . . . One sometimes came into social circles where Balfour was regarded chiefly as a man of literary tastes and somewhat eccentric intellectual developments. All this cast a peculiar reflection over his career as a politician and filled many observers with the idea that he was only playing at parliamentary life, and that his other occupations were the genuine realities with him. Even to this day there are some who persist in believing that Balfour, despite his prolonged and unvarying attention to his parliamentary duties, has never given his heart to the prosaic and practical work of administrative office and the business of maintaining his political party. Yet it has always had to be acknowledged that no man attended more carefully and more closely to such work when he had to do it, and that the most devoted worshiper of political success could not have been more regular and constant in his attention to the business of the House of Commons."

Very telling is the comparison Mr. McCarthy makes of Chamberlain and Balfour. He writes:

"For a long time there had been much speculation in these countries concerning the probable successor to Lord Salisbury, whenever Lord Salisbury should make up his mind to resign the position of prime minister. We all knew that that resignation was sure to come soon, altho very few of us had any idea that it was likely to come quite so soon. The general opinion was that the country would not be expected, for some time at least, to put up again with a Prime Minister in the House of Lords. If, therefore, the new Prime Minister had to be found in the House of Commons, there seemed to be only a choice between two men—Arthur Balfour and Joseph Chamberlain. It would be hard to find two men in the House of Commons more unlike each other in characteristic qualities and in training than these two. They are both endowed with remarkable capacity for political life and for parliamentary debate. . . . Balfour is an aristocrat of aristocrats; Chamberlain is essentially a man of the British middle class. . . . Balfour has gone through all the regular course of university education; Chamberlain was for a short time at University College School in London, a popular institution of modern origin which does most valuable educational work, but is not largely patronized by the classes who claim aristocratic positions. Balfour is a constant reader and student of many literatures and languages; 'Mr. Chamberlain,' accord-

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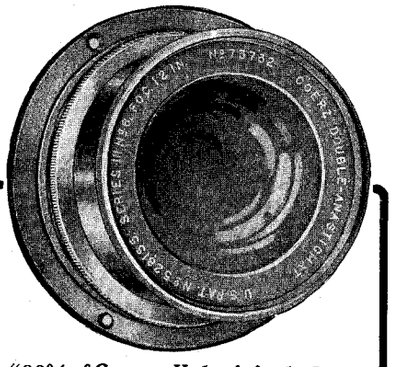

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ing to a leading article in the London daily newspaper, 'to put it mildly, is not a bookworm.' Balfour loves open-air sports and is a votary of athleticism; Chamberlain never takes any exercise, even walking exercise, when he can possibly avoid the trouble. Balfour is an esthetic lover of all the arts; Chamberlain has never, so far as I know, given the slightest indication of interest in any artistic subject. Balfour is by nature a modest and retiring man; Chamberlain is always 'Pushful Joe.' Stamp and character of a successful and municipal politician are always evident in Chamberlain, while Balfour seems to be above all other things a university scholar and member of high society. I suppose it must have been a profound disappointment to Chamberlain that he was not offered the place of Prime Minister, but it would be hardly fair to expect that such a place would not be offered to the First Lord of the Treasury and Leader of the House of Commons, even if that First Lord did not happen to be a nephew of the retiring Prime Minister."

Varied has been the intellectual activity of Mr. John Morley, and it is with interest we read of the beginning of his political career. Mr. McCarthy gives an account of Morley's maiden speech in the House of Commons:

"What first impressed the House of Commons was the ready, quiet force of Morley's delivery. He had a fine, clear voice, he spoke without notes, and without any manifest evidence of preparation, every sentence expressed without effort the precise meaning which he wished to convey, and his style had an eloquence peculiarly its own. What most men expected of him was the philosophical discourse of a student and a thinker no longer in his fitting place, and what was least expected of him was just that which he delivered, a ready, telling, and powerful parliamentary speech. He had some unexpected difficulties to encounter, because he gave out his opinions so forcibly and so boldly that their utterance called forth frequent interruptions—an unusual event in the case of a maiden speech, which is generally regarded as a mere introductory ceremonial and is taken politely as a necessary matter of form. The House soon found, however, that John Morley's speech did not by any means belong to the ordinary category of maiden performances, and the very interruptions were therefore a positive tribute to the importance of the new member's argument. The interruptions were, in every sense, fortunate for Morley, because they enabled him at this very first opportunity to prove his ready capacity for debate. He replied on the spur of the moment to every interruption and every interjected question, and he showed all the composure, all the promptitude and the command, of a practical parliamentary debater. Every man in the House whose opinion was worth having at once recognized the fact that a new force had come up in parliamentary debate, and when John Morley resumed his seat, he must have known that he had accomplished a complete success."

Current Events.

Foreign.

THE BALKANS.

June 8.—A mass-meeting at Sofia adopts resolutions appealing to the Bulgarian Government to stop the Turkish atrocities in Macedonia.

June 10.—The Turks pillage a village in the district of Adrianople and massacre the inhabitants.

THE SERVIAN REVOLUTION.

June 11.—A revolution breaks out in Belgrade, Servia; King Alexander, Queen Draga, and many other persons are assassinated; a provisional government is formed.

June 13.—It is reported that Prince Peter Karageorgevitch will be chosen to succeed King

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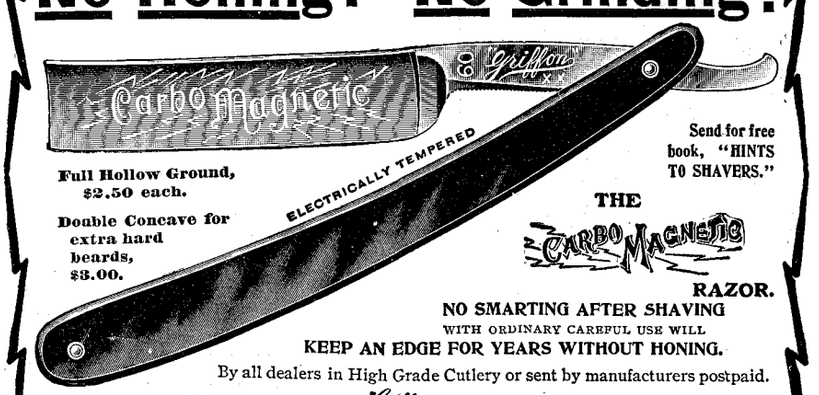

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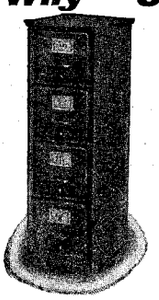

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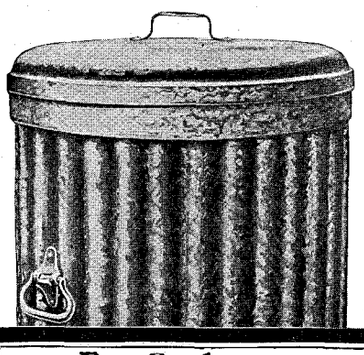

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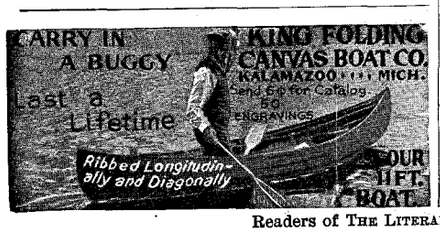

Alexander; quiet prevails throughout Servia.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

June 8.—French artillery bombard Figuig.

King Edward awards a medal to C. F. McKim, the New York architect who designed the work for remodeling the White House at Washington.

June 9.—Colonial Secretary Chamberlain, it is rumored, will resign from the British Cabinet, as the result of the decided stand the Ministry took in favor of free trade in a debate in the House of Commons.

June 10.—The British Premier, by a diplomatic speech, averts a Cabinet crisis.

Russia declines all offers from abroad of aid for the Kishineff sufferers.

June 11.—Rumania refuses to permit the Standard Oil Company to exploit its oil-fields.

June 12.—The British House of Commons passes the Budget bill.

June 13.—General Matos makes an appeal to President Castro to allow those engaged in the rebellion to return to Venezuela, and announces the collapse of the revolt.

The Italian Cabinet resigns.

June 14.—Father Hendrick, of Rochester, is selected as Bishop of Cebu, Philippines; Monsignor Rooker and Father Dougherty are consecrated bishops in Rome and appointed to sees in the Philippines.

Domestic.

THE POST-OFFICE SCANDALS.

June 8.—The Groff Brothers are indicted on the charge of bribing A. W. Machen in connection with postal contracts.

June 11.—Assistant Postmaster-General Bristow is investigating the alleged "graft" in the choice of sub-stations in cities.

June 12.—The offer of George W. Beaver, former superintendent of the division of salaries and allowances, to aid in the postal investigation, is declined.

June 13.—The Civil-Service Commission, in a report to Postmaster-General Payne, sustains S. W. Tulloch's charges of violations of the Civil-Service law.

THE FLOOD SITUATION.

June 8.—The river front for seven miles at St. Louis is under water; more than twenty are reported drowned.

June 10.—The Illinois Central Railroad embankment gives way and part of East St. Louis is submerged.

June 12.—Kansas City issues another appeal for aid in caring for its flood sufferers; the Mississippi fell at St. Louis.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

June 8.—Samuel Parks, business agent of the Housesmiths and Bridgemen's Union, is arrested in New York, charged with extorting $2,000 for calling off a strike.

Governor Taft replies to the report of General Miles upon conditions in the Philippines.

June 9.—J. N. Watson, Jr., is arrested, accused of embezzling public funds to the amount of from $60,000 to $75,000.

President Baer testifies before the Interstate Commerce Commission's investigation of complaint against coal-carrying railroads.

June 10.—Generals Young, Corbin, and Carter are selected for the general staff of the army.

June 11.—President Roosevelt denies the story connecting the postal fraud with an attempt to defeat his nomination in 1904. He declares that no one would shield the guilty men.

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five minutes, fifty-two seconds, and the *Columbia* by more than twelve minutes.

June 12.—Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador, declares that the public meetings in the United States would have no effect on Russia's internal policy.

June 13.—The President confers with William N. Cromwell, attorney for the Panama Canal Company, relative to the opposition in Colombia to the canal treaty.

June 14.—*Shamrock III*, accompanied by *Shamrock I* and *Erin*, arrives at New York.

AMERICAN DEPENDENCIES.

June 9.—*Philippines:* The Philippine Commission enacts a bill providing for a form of self-government for the Moros.

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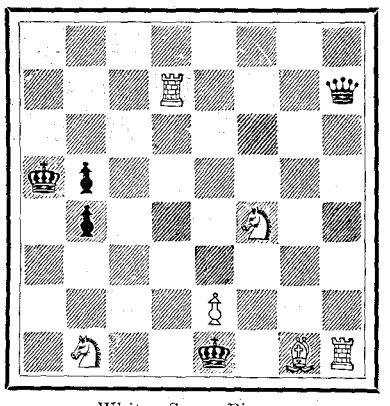
Black—Four Pieces.



White—Seven Pieces.

8; 3 R 3 q; 8; k p 6; 1 p 3 S 2; 8; 4 P 3; 1 S 2 k 1 B R.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 838.

By J. MOLLER, Denmark.

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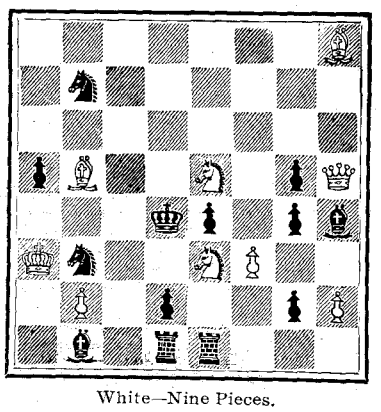
Black—Thirteen Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

7 B; 1 S 6; 8; p B 2 S 1 p q; 3 k p 1 p b K s 2 S P 2; 1 P 1 p 2 p P; 1 b 1 r r 3.

White mates in three moves.

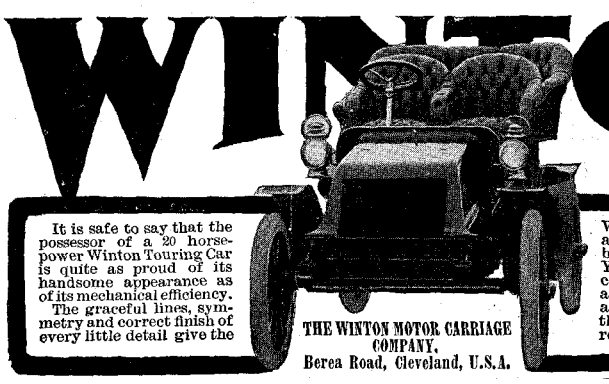
Solution of Problems.

No. 688. Third-Prize Two-er.
Key-move: Kt—Q B 6.

No. 742. Third-Prize Three-er.
Key-move: Kt—B 3.

No. 724. Honorable-Mention Two-er.
Key-move: Kt—B 7.

WINTON



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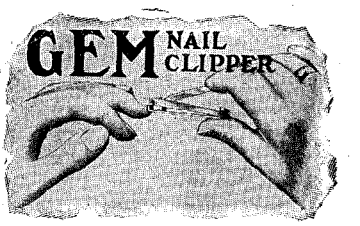

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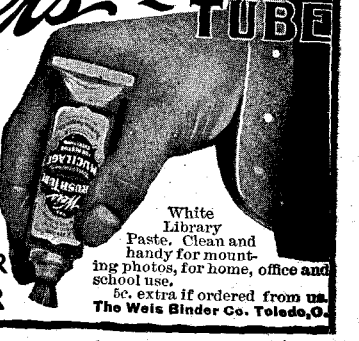

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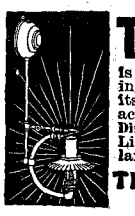

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No. 698. Honorable-Mention Three-er.
Key-move: B-R 6.

In addition to names on "The Honor-Roll," reported since award was made, A Knight, Tyler, Tex.; "Twenty-three," Philadelphia; O. C. Pitkin, Syracuse, N. Y.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.; E. N. K, Harrisburg, Pa.; "Chess-Club," Ouray, Colo.

688 and 742: W. T. St., Auburn, Grosse-pointe Farms, Mich.; D. H. Wiltsie, Jamestown, N. Y.; Dr. J. L. Cardozo, Brooklyn, N. Y.

688 and 724: W. K. Greely, Boston.

742, 724, 698: R. H. Renshaw, University of Virginia.

724: M. Almy, Chicago.

732 and 711: The Rev. C. H. Rowley, Harwich, Mass.

711: Dr. H. W. Fannin, Hackett, Ark.

Additional comments (688): "An all-round beauty"—A K.

742: "A great problem"—A K.; "Very elegant"—W. T. St. A.

698: "Seldom that a key is so thoroughly hidden"—A K.; "Very occult"—"Twenty-three."

From the Vienna Tourney.

HOW MARSHALL BEAT PILLSBURY.

Bishop's Gambit.

PILLSBURY. *White.*	MARSHALL. *Black.*	PILLSBURY. *White.*	MARSHALL. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	23 K x Q	R—K sq
2 P—K B 4	P x P	24 K—B 3	Kt—K 4 ch
3 B—B 4	P—K B 4	25 K—Kt 3	B—Q 3
4 Q—K 2	P x P	26 K—Kt 2	P—K Kt 4
5 Q—R 5 ch	P—Kt 3	27 R—K sq	R—K B sq
6 Q—K 5 ch	Q—K 2	28 B—K 3	Kt—Kt 5
7 Q x R	Kt—B 3	29 B—Kt sq	P—Kt 3
8 Kt—Q B 3	P—B 3	30 P—K R 3	Kt(Kt 5)—B 3
9 B—Kt 8	P—Q 4	31 Q R—Q sq	Kt—Q 4
10 K Kt—K 2	P—B 6	32 P—B 4	Kt—B 5 ch
11 Kt—B 4	B—K B 4	33 K—R sq	K—B 2
12 B x P	Kt x B	34 B—R 2	Kt—B 3
13 Castles	Kt—Q 2	35 B x Kt	P x B
14 P x P	Castles	36 R—K 6	Kt—K sq
15 Q—Q 4	Q—Kt 4 ch	37 P—R 3	P—R 4
16 K—R sq	Q x Kt	38 P—K R 4	P—B 6
17 P—Q 3	Q—R 5	39 P—R 5	R—B 4
18 Q P x K P	B—B 4	40 P—Kt 4	P x P
19 Q—Q 2	P x P	41 P x P	B x P
20 P x P	B x P ch	42 K—R 2	Kt—Kt 2
21 Kt x B	Q x Kt ch	43 R—K 3	R x P ch
22 Q—Kt 2	Q x Q ch	44 Resigns.	

MAROCZY TRIED THE DANGEROUS "MUZIO."

Muzio Gambit.

MARSHALL. *White.*	MAROCZY. *Black.*	MARSHALL. *White.*	MAROCZY. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	9 P—B 3	B—R 3
2 P—K B 4	P x P	10 P—Q 4	Kt—K 2
3 Kt—K B 3	P—K Kt 4	11 Castles	Castles
4 B—B 4	P—Kt 5	12 Kt—Q 5	Kt x Kt
5 Kt—B 3	P x Kt	13 Q x Q	Kt x Q
6 Q x P	P—Q 4	14 B x B	Q Kt—Q 2
7 Kt x P	P—Q B 3	15 B x R	K x B
8 Kt x P	Q—B 3	16 P—K 5	Resigns.

White's 12th move is highly ingenious. He wins his piece back, and virtually the game.

After White's 16th move, there is nothing left for Black. If 16.., Kt—Q 5; 17 B x Kt, P x B; 18 P—K 6 wins.

PROBLEM 836, First Prize *B. C. M.* Tourney, is the work of A. F. Mackenzie. The blind problematist divided second and third prizes with J. Moller. The other prize-winners are: P. F. Blake, fourth; Vincenz Schiffers, fifth; Ottmar Nemo-Weiss, sixth; L. Vetesnik and G. Heathcote, seventh and eighth; Max Meyer and Schiffers, first honorable mention; L. Vetesnik and E. E. Westbury, second honorable mention.

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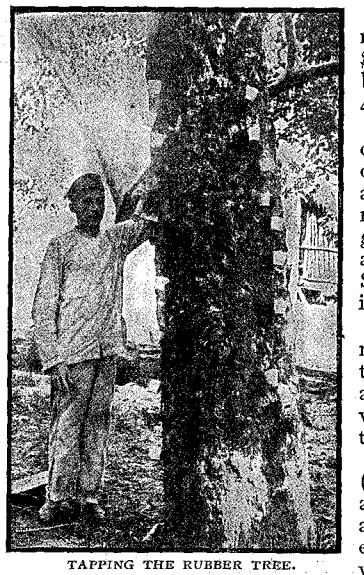

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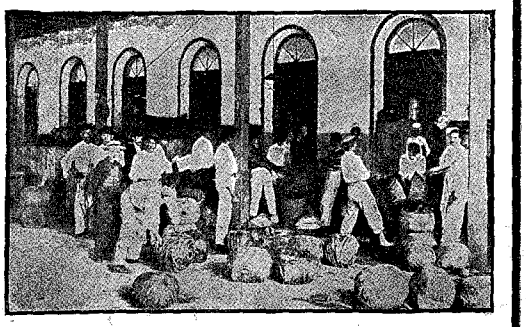

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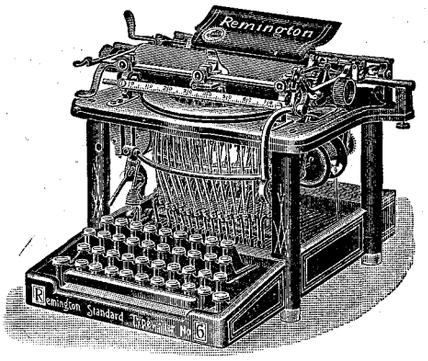

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